ANGLING

IN ALL ITS BRANCHES,

REDUCED TO A COMPLETE SCIENCE:

BEING THE RESULT OF MORE THAN FORTY YEARS REAL PRACTICE AND STRICT OBSERVATION THROUGHOUT THE KINGDOMS OF GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND.

IN THREE PARTS.

First, Describing (among other things) the Counties of England, Wales, and Scotland, in alphabetical order; the Rivers and other Waters which they contain; their rise, progress, and curiosities; together with those of Ireland; the Fish they produce, and the parts best adapted for Angling: Interspersed with curious and entertaining incidents and practical remarks never before made public.

Secondly, A full description of the different kinds of Fish taken by Angling, &c. their natures, haunts, seasons, spawning-times, baits, biting-times; and how to angle for each; with many curious, useful, and pleasing observations.

Thirdly, A list of Artificial Flies (the completest collection ever yet known), which will take Fish in all Waters in each of the above Countries; the materials, and how to make each as described; the most skilful way of throwing the line, and of managing it when in the water; Night Fly-fishing; Natural Fly-fishing, &c.

The Whole forming a WORK of real UTILITY, Comprising objects too numerous to be detailed in a Title Page, and of a very different nature from those insignificant little Pamphlets hitherto published, which treat chiefly of angling in the Thames, the New River, and other Waters of equal *consequence* about London.

By SAMUEL TAYLOR, Gent.

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TO

THE RIGHT HONORABLE

THOMAS LORD DUNDAS.

MY LORD,

MANY years ago, when I had the honor of conversing with Your Lordship upon the subject of Angling, you were graciously pleased to advise me to continue my pursuits in the art, if I thought I could improve upon the knowledge I had then acquired. It was not till several years afterwards, that I made a tour to North Britain and Ireland; and upon my return, which is some time since, I had the honor of an interview with Your Lordship, when you were not only pleased to approve of the whole of my improvements and remarks, and to accept of some Limeric hooks, but did me the distinguished honor of permitting me, whenever I should think of publishing a Work on this subject, to dedicate it to Your Lordship.

Your Lordſhip's having formerly been an excellent angler, and fond of the diverſion, particularly of *fly-fiſhing*, which is the moſt delightful branch of the art, renders this your kind condeſcenſion highly gratifying to me, and, added to the many obligations which I am under to Your Lordſhip, fills my heart at once with unſpeakable gratitude, reſpect, and love. I am happy, therefore, now that the Work is brought forward, in having it in my power thus humbly to lay before ſo noble, ſo good a man and friend, the reſult of my aſſiduous ſtudy, wherein I preſume to think I have reduced Angling to a *complete ſcience*.

The inclination as well as power of encouraging every kind of merit and induſtry, is ſo conſpicuous in Your Lordſhip's nature, as to admit of no compariſon; but though I deſpair of addreſſing Your Lordſhip in any terms adequate to your worth and dignity, or in a language ſuitable to my feelings, yet I have the confidence to believe, that Your Lordſhip will accept of this acknowledgment as the effuſion of a grateful heart.

That

That Your Lordſhip and family may here enjoy an uninterrupted ſtate of health and felicity, and hereafter be amply rewarded for your many generous and meritorious acts, is the ſincere wiſh of,

MY LORD,

Your Lordſhip's moſt grateful,
Obedient, and
Devoted humble ſervant,

THE AUTHOR.

PREFACE.

THE art of Angling, in its different branches, having hitherto failed of becoming useful to a sufficient extent, for want of a work written by a real practitioner, founded on long experience, and calculated to reduce the whole to a complete science, I have been called upon for years past, and strongly solicited by some hundreds of gentlemen (strangers, as well as friends and companions in the diversion of angling) throughout the countries of Great Britain and Ireland, to take upon me the task and complete a work of this kind; declaring at the same time, that they should not mind what price I put upon it. I have at length complied with their requests; and, as the result of the experience

experience I have had for upwards of forty years, the following work will, I truſt, be found ſo entirely complete, that even the beſt of anglers may improve by it, and thoſe who are unacquainted with angling, may eaſily become adepts in the art.

I HAVE not treated of ſome few rivers of England only, and the common fiſh taken therein; but have extended my obſervations to the whole countries of England, Wales, Scotland, and Ireland. I deſcribe what kinds of fiſh the ſeveral rivers produce, and the places beſt adapted for angling therein. Nor have I contented myſelf with merely deſcribing the various kinds of fiſh taken by angling in theſe waters, ſo as that they may be known when ſeen, with their natures, qualities, haunts, ſeaſons, ſpawning-times, feeding-times, baits, how to angle for each, rods, lines, &c.; but every proper matter and thing concerning angling is ſo clearly laid down, that it is now impoſſible for any one to be at a loſs in any thing with regard

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to this art; the work in this instance being quite different from what has hitherto been attempted; and the reader will find the assertion of some historians who have written on the nature of Salmons, and some other fishes, refuted.

The list of flies given in this work, and the instructions for making each, are very valuable, and cannot fail of making a person perfect in the best manner of fly-making, (as yet peculiar to myself,) with but very little practice; and the rules given for fly-fishing are uncommonly instructive; so that the result of them, if rightly put in practice, must be never failing success.

Several of those who have ventured to write upon this subject have known but little, if anything, of the nature of fish, even of those they have attempted to treat of, and, I am persuaded, have never taken either Salmon or Trout by angling, perhaps never saw one alive in the water in their lives.—Indeed, they do not presume

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to give any account of taking Salmons or Salmon Trouts by angling, or how to make flies for them, not having been able to diſtinguiſh between ſmall Salmon, Salmon Trouts, and others of the Salmon kind; and had ſome of them been preſented with a Grayling, it is a query if they could have told what kind of fiſh it was. They recommend angling in the Thames from London bridge to Chelſea, and higher up; as if ſuch parts of the river were the beſt of all others; or as if the Thames thereabout was the chiefeſt river for that purpoſe that we have in this country; with ſome ſuch account of other rivers about the metropolis, they tell you methods of taking Gudgeons, Roach, Dace, Barbel, and other common fiſh, ſtrongly adviſing the ground baits for baiting the places where you angle, in bottom fiſhing, &c. to be equal or ſuperior to your hook baits; which is exceedingly wrong, for they ſhould always be inferior, as is clearly ſhewn in the Second Part of this production; and, added to their preposterous nonſenſe of alluring fiſh to bite

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by the uſe of oils, &c. and their unlawful rules given for the encouragement of poaching, and foxing of fiſh as they term it, (which are ſhameful, and never will appear in any proper treatiſe of angling,) render the whole of their compoſitions at once ridiculous; ſo that, inſtead of inſtructing, they only bewilder, and prevent many from partaking of this delightful diverſion, which they might enjoy were they but properly inſtructed.

By what has been here advanced, the author does not mean to detract from the merit of any others who have touched upon the ſubject; but only to ſhew how his methods differ from their notions.

In this work there is not the leaſt thing imaginary; but all is written from the real knowledge the author has acquired in the art, aſſiſted by his own private memorandums; ſo that he thinks he may without vanity juſtly entitle it, Angling Reduced to a Complete Science; and the whole is ſo interſperſed with remarks and little pleaſing

pleafing anecdotes, that the reader will be agreeably furprifed and entertained.

That fuch a book is wanting, and may prove ufeful and pleafing to thoufands, is obvious from the numerous and preffing folicitations the author has lately received to finifh and make his public, as well as from the nature of thofe little pamphlets that ftill appear in print.

Angling has ever been my delight, which led me to extend my obfervations and improve the art when quite a youth; and I foon became accounted the completeft angler in the furrounding counties where I had my practice. But I was not then fatisfied with myfelf.—I began to confider, that to conftitute a complete angler, the nature of fifhes fhould be thoroughly known; by ftrict perfeverance I attained this knowledge, and difcovered their certain baits for the different feafons of the year; their favorite flies for the various months, weeks, days, and hours throughout the feafon; and conftantly practifed

tiſed making them artificially till I could imitate nature exactly. After this, angling became more pleaſant to me; and hearing that there were excellent rivers and anglers in Wales, Scotland, and Ireland, I viſited thoſe countries, to my no ſmall ſatisfaction; and ſo by degrees I extended my diverſion, and at length experienced angling through the various counties and places ſtated in Part the Firſt; ſtill continuing my remarks, and improving, till that power became exhauſted. I then began to think of putting together the memoranda which form this book.

ANGLING

IN

ALL ITS BRANCHES,

&c. &c. &c.

PART THE FIRST.

A list of the counties of ENGLAND, WALES, *and* SCOTLAND, *in alphabetical order; the rivers and other waters which they contain; their rise, progress, and curiosities; together with those of* IRELAND; *the fish that they produce, and the parts best adapted for angling.—A description of the lochs or lakes; noticing the number of islands that some of them comprise, and distinguishing those which are inhabited; the cause of the rivers expanding into these large waters, and afterwards sending forth other rivers; with an account of the beautiful lake of Killarney.—In this Part are interspersed some curious and entertaining little inci-*

dents which occurred to the Author in the course of his pastime of Angling; with many other remarks never before made public.

ENGLAND.

BEDFORDSHIRE.

THE *Ouse*, the chief river of this county, enters it between *Brayfield* and *Turry*, passes through *Bedford*, and leaves the county again at *St. Neot's*. It has a beautiful course, dividing the shire into two equal parts; and in the distance of twenty miles is computed to run over a tract of seventy; yet in all that course it receives only the small river *Ivel*, which falls into it a little above *Temsford*.

These rivers produce Pike, Perch, fine Eels, Crawfish, and abundance of common fish.

BERKSHIRE.

The principal rivers of this county (beside the Thames) are, the *Isis* and the *Kennet*;

Kennet; the former of which rises in *Gloucestershire*, and, with other streams, forms the *Thames*, which will be more particularly mentioned in its place. The latter runs past *Newbury* to *Reading*, and is so far navigable. There is also the little river *Lamburn*, which is always highest in summer, and in the midst of winter is said to be entirely dry.

There are excellent fish in some of these rivers. Near Newbury, Speenham Lands, and Hungerford, are taken fine Trout. These waters are also famous for Crawfish.

BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.

The chief rivers are, the *Thames* (which passes the southern borders of this county) and the *Ouse* (which nearly surrounds the town of *Buckingham*); besides which, there are the *Tame* and the *Colne*.

Trout and other good fish are to be found in these rivers.

CAMBRIDGESHIRE.

The principal rivers of this county are, the *Ouſe* and the *Cam*; the former of which, running from the eaſt to the north weſt, receives the latter near *Thetford*, after having paſſed the ſeveral towns of *Cheſterford*, *Soham*, and *Ely*.

In ſome parts of theſe rivers will be found excellent fiſhing. Near the town of Cambridge particularly is very good angling for Pike, Perch, &c.

CHESHIRE.

The principal rivers are, the *Merſey*, the *Dee*, and the *Wevel*. The firſt of theſe runs from the north eaſt, and divides this county from *Lancaſhire*. The ſecond riſes from two hills in *North Wales*, paſſes *Grafton* in this county, then takes a northerly courſe to *Cheſter*, below which it becomes very extenſive, and ſoon falls into the ſea. The third ſprings in *Shropſhire*, and runs for ſome miles from ſouth to north,

north, by *Nantwich;* then, inclining to the weſt, falls into the *Merſey.*

Theſe rivers abound with fiſh; and numbers of very fine Salmon, Salmon Trout, Trout, Perch, &c. are taken in the ſeaſon.

CORNWALL.

The river *Tamar* runs by the town of *Launceſton* in this county, and paſſes into *Devonſhire.* The *Camel* riſes at *Camelford,* runs down by *Bodmin* to *Wadbridge,* and at laſt forms *Padſtow-haven.* The *Fale* runs from north to ſouth into the Channel at *Falmouth.* The *Fowey* riſes near the centre of the county, and, taking a northerly courſe, runs by *Fowey* and *Leſtwithiel.* The *Cobor* runs by *Helſton* into the ſea; and the river *Looe* divides the towns of *Eaſtlooe* and *Weſtlooe.*

There is plenty of fiſh (of the Salmon kind, Trouts, and many others) to be taken in theſe rivers.

CUMBERLAND.

This county contains a number of rivers, exclusive of lakes or meres. The principal are the *Eden*, which is said to rise from *Mowill-hill* in *Westmoreland*, and runs on the north side of *Carlisle* into the *Solway Firth*. The *Petterel* runs on the east side, and the *Cauda*, or *Cawd*, on the west; so that the city is almost surrounded with rivers. The *Derwent* rises from the *Derwent Mountains*, and, running through the middle of the county, falls into the *Irish* Sea. Some have erroneously asserted, that in one or more of these rivers is taken the delicious fish called *Charr*. This is a mistake, however, which perhaps arises from a species of *Trout* that is caught in the river *Petterel*, about the size of the *Charr*, of nearly as fine a colour, and not easily distinguishable in taste, particularly when potted. I am persuaded that the very singular sort of fish called *Charr* is nowhere to be found in *Great Britain*, except in *Winander-Mere* in the county of *Westmore-*

Westmoreland, (and which divides it from *Lancashire*,) *Ulles-Water* in this county, and a lake at *Snowden* in *Wales*.

These rivers, especially the Derwent, produce excellent Salmon, Salmon-Trout, Trout, and various other sorts of fish; so that a person who understands the art of angling may always find sport in this county.

DERBYSHIRE

Has several fine rivers, among the principal of which is the *Derwent*, which rises in the *Peak*, and runs through the center of the county, passing through *Chatsworth* park (the seat of the Duke of *Devonshire*) to *Derby*, and falling into the *Trent* some few miles below that town. The *Erwash* also rises in the *Peak*, and ends in the *Trent*. The *Dove* parts this county from *Staffordshire*, runs near *Ashborn*, and falls into the *Trent* four or five miles to the north of *Burton*. The *Trent* bounds the county on the south, and the *Wye* runs through *Bakewell*. The *Dove* is remark-

able for its blue tranſparency, (from which it is ſuppoſed to have derived its name,) and the *Derwent* for its brownneſs.

Theſe rivers produce excellent fiſh. Even cloſe to the town of Derby I have taken Trout, and plenty of fine Graylings, a fiſh not known in North Britain or Ireland, nor in many parts of England.

DEVONSHIRE

Is well watered by ſeveral fine rivers and abundance of ſmall ſtreams. The principal rivers are, the *Tamar*, which ſeparates this county from *Cornwall*, has its riſe near *Welcombe*, and, running from north to ſouth, becomes ſo very large and ſo deep, for near two leagues before it opens into *Plymouth Sound*, that the *Salmon* have a ſecure retreat in the ſalt water; the river *Plime*, which runs by *Plymouth*; the *Ax*, near *Axminſter*; the *Ex*, which riſes among the hills on the north ſide of the county, and, like the *Tamar*, begins within five miles of the ſea, runs to *Tiverton*, juſt

just below which it receives the small river *Loman*, and, keeping on its course to *Exeter*, falls into the Channel. There are also the rivers *Towridge* and *Taw*, both of which meet the sea just below *Bideford* and *Barnstaple*, forming one channel; the *Tavy*, which runs by *Tavistock*; the *Dart*, which runs by *King's Ware* and *Dartmouth*; and the *Columb*.

These rivers abound with excellent Salmon and Trout, and contain uncommon quantities of other fish, which afford great diversion to the angler. I have often angled near Exeter, where I always met with good sport; and have taken that much-esteemed fish called Mullet.

At the latter end of August, in the year 1786, returning from *Exeter* to *London*, I had occasion to stop at *Honiton*, a stage of sixteen miles, where I was accommodated at the George Inn. The next day Mr. Readstone (who kept the inn) and I entered into conversation upon angling, particularly fly-fishing for Trout, when he mentioned a small river near the town

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which had been once famous for that species of fish, but was now fallen into disrepute, on account of the privileges granted of late years to the freemen of Honiton to use whatever means they pleased to take and destroy the fish; so that there were not any to be taken by angling within some miles of the town. I then told him that I would take a walk to this water, as I could always find Trout in a river wherein there ever had been any. Upon coming to the river, I found it a very small stream, not sufficient to harbour any fish in that part: but on following its course a little way, I soon perceived (as I expected) the streams more rapid, and deeper in many places, occasioned by little falls of water, and the bottom, here and there, full of small craggy rocks, (which is generally the case in small *Trout rivers*,) by which means the fish are sheltered and preserved; it being impossible, in such bottoms, totally to destroy them.

Being convinced (by the observations just before stated, together with the quality

quality of the water) that there were Trout in these places, I began to angle with a favourite artificial fly of my own making, with which (in about an hour and a half) I caught a fine dish of Trout, some of them very large. The fish were afterwards shewn to several gentlemen who were reputed to be the best anglers in the town, all of whom expressed their astonishment at my success; as they had been out that and the preceding day, but could not raise a single fish. This may serve as a convincing proof that very few of the number of those who pretend to be good anglers have much, if any, knowledge of the nature of fish or their baits; for I had often, before that time, met with similar success in several of these kinds of *condemned rivers*, in different parts of Great Britain and Ireland.

DORSETSHIRE.

The chief rivers of this county are, the *Stour*, or *Stower*, which rises in *Somersetshire*,

ſhire, but ſoon enters this county, runs to *Sturminſter* and *Winburn*, then takes nearly a weſterly courſe, leaves *Dorſetſhire*, paſſes *Hampſhire*, and ſoon after falls into the ſea; and the *Froom*, which riſes in the eaſt of this county, takes nearly a weſterly courſe by *Dorcheſter*, and falls into *Pool* Harbour. There are alſo the rivers *Piddle* and *Wye*, or *Wey*, upon the mouth of which laſt ſtand the towns of *Weymouth* and *Melcombe Regis*.

There are Trout and other fiſh in theſe rivers: but the Stour produces famous Tench and Eels.

In Mr. Browne's water, four or five miles above Dorcheſter, I have often taken from ſix to eight dozen of Trout in an afternoon.

DURHAM.

The chief rivers of this county are, the *Wear*, which riſes from the weſtern part of the county with many windings, paſſing through the city of *Durham* by *Lumley Caſtle*, and afterwards falling into the ſea

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at *Sunderland*; the *Tees*, which rises near the head of the *Wear*, and divides this county from *Yorkshire*, passes by *Barnard Castle* and *Stockton*, after which it falls into the sea; and the *Tyne*, which will be noticed hereafter.

These rivers afford Salmon Trout, and plenty of common fish, of which I have taken (just below Durham) from ten to eighteen dozen in the course of the day.

ESSEX.

The rivers of this county (beside the *Thames*) are, the *Stour*, which falls into the sea at *Harwich*; the *Lea*, which runs into the *Thames* a little below *Stratford*; the *Blackwater*, which runs through the middle of the county, and, passing by *Chelmsford*, is joined by the river *Chalmer*, after which it falls into the sea; and the *Colne*, which runs by *Halsted* to *Colchester*, and so on to the sea.

These rivers produce many kinds of fish; but are so poached, particularly near the towns

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which they pass in their course, that an angler, unless he be very skilful, seldom meets with much sport. From Lea Bridge downwards there is good angling for Perch, Pike, Chub, Roach, Dace, fine Gudgeons, and Barbel.

GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

The chief river of this county is the *Severn*, which is large and beautiful, and, for the length of its navigation, may be said to rival the *Thames*. It rises out of a mountain called *Plinlimmon Hill* in *Montgomeryshire*, and is capable of carrying large barges from *King-Road* up to *Pool-Quay* in the said county of *Montgomery*. It passes by the principal towns of *Shrewsbury*, (which it surrounds in the form of a horse-shoe,) *Bridgenorth*, *Bewdley*, and the cities of *Worcester* and *Gloucester*; which county it enters a little above *Tewkesbury*, where the tide flows, and frequently higher, which is said to be more than seventy miles from the sea. It then passes *Newnham*,

Newnham, below which it resembles a sea, the tide rushing on with such impetuosity when coming in, that it rolls four or five feet high, and carries every thing before it. But what is affirmed to be more remarkable is, that the tides are highest one year at the full moon, and the next year at the change; and that in one year the night tides are highest, and the next the day tides. This river at last falls into the *Bristol* Channel. There are also the rivers *Wye*, (which passes *Chepstow*,) *Stroud*, *Avon*, and *Ists*.

These rivers produce plenty of fine fish to afford the Angler great sport. In the Severn, near Gloucester, are taken, in the Fishery, abundance of fine Salmon, with which the London markets are chiefly supplied.

HAMPSHIRE.

The principal rivers are, the *Avon*, which comes down from *Salisbury*, and enters this county at *Charford*, bringing with it all the waters of the south and east parts of

Wiltshire, and receiving also the *Stour* and the *Piddle*, two *Dorsetshire* rivers which bring down with them all the waters of the north of *Dorsetshire*, and, taking a course towards the south, falls into the sea below *Christchurch*; the *Wey*, which rises in this county, and runs into *Surrey*; the *Tese*, which runs to the south, at *Stockbridge* forms several islands, and afterwards falls into the *Southampton Water*. There is also the river *Itching*, which runs by *Winchester* and *Southampton*, *and where there is good angling, as also in many parts of all these rivers, which afford fine Salmon, Salmon-Trout, Trout, Mullet, and other fish.*

HEREFORDSHIRE.

This county is well watered by rivers, the principal of which are, the *Wye*, which rises from *Plinlimmon Hill* in *North Wales*, and has a long course, running through *Hereford*, *Ross*, and many other places in this county; the *Lug*, which passes through *Leominster*; the *Arrow*, the *Monow*, the *Frome*,

Frome, and the *Diffrin-Doe;* the laſt of which is the only river of the county that does not riſe in *Wales*.

Theſe are excellent rivers for ſport; abounding with Salmon, Salmon-Trout, Trout, Grayling, and almoſt every other ſpecies of river fiſh. The Salmon in the Wye are remarkable for being always good; for it is not known that a foul fiſh was ever taken out of that river; and the Graylings in the Lug are very fine, as well as thoſe in the Wye.

HERTFORDSHIRE.

Many ſmall rivers water this county: but the principal ones are the *Lea* and the *Colne*. The former of theſe comes from *Milford* to *Ware*, and is the only navigable river in the county. The latter runs through *Watford*, where it has two ſtreams, which run ſeparately to *Rickmanſworth*.

In the river, near Ware, I have taken excellent Trout, and other fiſh.

HUNTINGDONSHIRE.

The chief rivers of this county are, the *Nyne*, or *Nen*, and the *Ouſe*. The *Nen* comes from *Wansford*, with a winding courſe round the north weſt and northern borders of the county. The *Ouſe* enters it at *St. Neot's*, and, paſſing *Huntingdon*, ſoon after leaves the county.

I have frequently angled in the latter river, near Huntingdon, and always met with good ſport. It produces excellent Pike, Perch, Eels, and abundance of common fiſh.

KENT.

The *Medway* is the chief river of this county (beſide the *Thames*). It riſes in *Suſſex*, and enters *Kent* near *Penſhurſt*, takes a north eaſt courſe by *Tunbridge*, *Maidſtone*, and *Rocheſter*, below which it forms *Chatham Dock*, and afterwards joins the mouth of the *Thames*.

This river produces good fiſh of ſeveral kinds.

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The river *Thames* paſſes this county at *Greenwich*, where is taken a ſmall kind of fiſh called *White-Bait*, which is ſo much eſteemed, that in the ſeaſon the inhabitants of the metropolis and other places were uſed to flock thither in parties to partake of theſe delicious morſels. But this practice is now prohibited, the fiſh being found to be nothing but the ſmall Smelt; which was always my opinion.

Not far from *Weſtram* riſe nine conſiderable ſprings, which unite at a ſmall diſtance, and form the river *Dart*, which runs through *Dartford* into the *Thames*. There are alſo the rivers *Len* and *Tunn*, the laſt of which runs into the *Medway* near *Tunbridge*, and the river *Stour* near *Canterbury*, which affords plenty of fine Trout.

LANCASHIRE.

The chief rivers of this county are, the *Merſey*, by which it is parted from *Cheſhire*, and which riſes on the weſt ſide of *Blackſtone Edge*, running by *Warrington* to

Liverpool; the *Ribble*, which enters this county at *Clithero*, and, running by *Preſton*, receives the *Darron* below Sir Henry Philip Hoghton's ſeat, and then journeys on to the ſea; and the *Irwell*, which runs through *Mancheſter*, where it is joined by the little river *Irk* (famous for fine Eels). The *Roch* paſſes *Bury;* and the *Wire*, *Garſtang* and *Poulton*. There are alſo the *Lone*, or *Lun*, which riſes in this county, and runs by *Lancaſter* into the ſea, and the *Calder*, which alſo riſes in this county, and runs into *Yorkſhire*, where it joins the river *Aire*.

Theſe rivers afford great plenty of fiſh. Not far from Lancaſter and Preſton I have often taken very large Salmon, Salmon-Trout, Trout, &c. till I have been fairly tired.

LEICESTERSHIRE.

This county is well furniſhed with rivers, the chief of which are, the *Soar*, which riſes in the weſtern part of the county; as do alſo the *Avon*, the *Anker*, and the *Wel-*

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land. These rivers form four different courses. The *Soar* first runs north east by *Leicester*, till it receives a small river called *Wreke;* it then turns to the north west, and falls into the *Trent*, where *Leicestershire*, *Derbyshire*, and *Nottinghamshire* meet. The *Avon* takes a course towards *Warwickshire;* the *Anker* runs north west to the same county; and the *Welland* has a north east course to *Harborough.* There is also the river *Swift.*

A sportsman may meet with good diversion in many parts of these rivers. Near Leicester I have often had tolerable success: but the farther from the towns, the better the diversion.

LINCOLNSHIRE.

The chief rivers are, the *Trent*, which passes the western edge of the county by *Littleborough* and *Grimsby*, after which it loses itself in the *Humber*, the northern boundary; the *Welland*, which parts the county from *Northamptonshire*, and, run-

ning through *Stamford*, *Crowland*, and *Spalding*, at laſt falls into the German Ocean; and the *Witham*, which riſes in the north weſt part of the county, takes a northern courſe to *Lincoln*, where it is enlarged by what is called the *Foſſe-Dyke*, and, turning to the ſouth eaſt, falls into the ſea below *Boſton*. There are alſo the rivers *Nyne*, or *Nen*, which runs by *Crowland* above mentioned, and the *Aukam*, which is famous for Eels. The other rivers produce plenty of good Salmon, Trout, and other fiſh. In ſome of the waters about Lincoln is found that ſcarce fiſh the *Rud* or *Finſcale*, hereafter treated of in the Second Part.

MIDDLESEX.

The chief river is the *Thames*, which, for its courſe, navigation, and trade, is ſaid to be unequalled in the known world; wherefore, conceiving this to be the moſt proper place for inſerting ſome account of it, I ſhall proceed to deſcribe its riſe and progreſs.

The

The *Thames* is compounded of two rivers, namely, the *Isis* and the *Thame* or *Tame*, together with other ſmall ſtreams which run into them. The former of theſe riſes near *Cirenceſter* in *Glouceſterſhire*, and is by ſome called the head of the *Thames*; from that place it takes an eaſterly courſe to *Lechlade* in the ſame county, where it receives the river *Colne*, and becomes navigable; then, running north eaſt to *Oxford*, it receives the *Charwell*; and, turning to the ſouth weſt, runs to *Abingdon*, and thence to *Dorcheſter* in *Oxfordſhire*, where the *Thame*, which riſes in *Buckinghamſhire*, joins it. Thus, uniting their names with their ſtreams, they make a beautiful river, which is thence called by the ſingle name of *Thames*; and, taking a courſe by the borders of the ſeveral counties of *Berks*, *Buckinghamſhire*, *Middleſex*, *Surrey*, *Eſſex*, and *Kent*, joins the *Medway* in the mouth of the Britiſh Ocean. The tide flows above *Richmond*, which is more than ſeventy miles from the ſea; and from its mouth to *Lechlade* (where the *Isis* firſt be-

comes navigable) is about two hundred and thirty miles.

The Thames produces Salmon, (though in no great quantity,) which are generally taken about Isleworth. These are accounted better than those of any other river in England, and bring a most extravagant price in the London markets; though, in my opinion, they are no better in quality than those taken in many other rivers, only that they are eaten in greater perfection, being caught so near the metropolis: whereas those brought from other places become strong, and lose their proper flavour before they can be exposed to sale in London; for I am persuaded that Salmon cannot be used too fresh.

This river produces numbers of other fish, such as Trout, Pike, Perch, Carp, Roach, Dace, Chub, Barbel, Gudgeons, and Flounders; and abounds with Eels and Lampreys.

In the *Colne*, near Uxbridge in this county, good Trouts are to be taken; the river abounding with streams suitable to the purpose of angling. It also produces fine Eels and other fish.

MONMOUTH.

MONMOUTHSHIRE.

This county may well boaſt of its rivers, by which it is better watered than moſt others; the chief of theſe are, the *Wye*, which parts the county from *Glouceſterſhire*, and runs by the town of *Monmouth* till it joins the *Severn;* the *Monnow*, or *Mynow*, which divides it from *Herefordſhire*, and, running on the other ſide of *Monmouth*, joins the *Wye;* the *Rumney*, which parts it from *Glamorganſhire;* and the *Uſk*, a beautiful river, which enters this county a little above *Abergavenny*, and runs moſtly ſouthward till it falls into the *Severn* by the mouth of the *Ebwith;* which laſt runs on the weſtern ſide of the county. Beſide theſe, there are the rivers *Trothy* at *Monmouth*, the *Lug* at *Chepſtow*, and the *Gavenny* at *Abergavenny*.

All theſe rivers abound with fiſh, and afford excellent ſport, as I have often experienced. The Salmon, Salmon-Trout, Trout, and Grayling, taken here, are very fine, excepting only the Salmon of the Uſk, which are

but indifferent, particularly from Abergavenny upwards.

N. B. The *Lug* is moſt noted for Grayling.

NORFOLK.

The chief rivers of this county are, the *Ouſe*, which divides it from *Suffolk* and *Cambridgeſhire*, and paſſes by *Lynn* to the ſea; the *Waveney*, which riſes within a ſmall diſtance of the *Ouſe*, in the ſouthern edge of the county, and becomes the boundary on the ſouth eaſt, between *Norfolk* and *Suffolk*; and the *Yare*, which riſes near the centre of the county, runs eaſtward through *Norwich* to *Yarmouth*, where it enters the German Ocean. A little above the town of *Yarmouth* the *Yare* and *Waveney* join. There are alſo the rivers *Thyrn* and *Duze*, which laſt runs by *Caſton* or *Catton*.

Theſe rivers produce fine fiſh of almoſt every kind: but their Perch are peculiarly excellent. I have often angled in them, and had good ſport.

NORTH-

NORTHAMPTONSHIRE.

The principal rivers in this county are, the *Nyne*, or *Nen*, and the *Welland*. It is alſo partly watered by the *Ouſe*, the *Charwell*, and the *Leam*. The *Nyne*, the *Leam*, and the *Charwell* riſe very near each other, not far from *Daventry*: but they form very different courſes; the *Leam* running weſtward, the *Charwell* ſouthward, and the *Nyne* eaſtward; the latter paſſing by *Peterborough*, *Higham-Ferris*, *Wellingborough*, and *Warnesford*. The *Welland* riſes on the north weſt ſide of the county, and divides it from *Leiceſterſhire*, *Rutlandſhire*, and *Lincolnſhire*. In this county alſo riſes the *Ouſe*, which, however, ſoon leaves it, and enters *Buckinghamſhire*. Beſide theſe, there is the river *Wrek*, which runs near *Coſſington*.

Good angling for Trouts will be found in many parts of ſome of theſe rivers; in others, for Perch, Pike, and other fiſh; and in the Charwell for the Rud.

NORTH-

NORTHUMBERLAND.

This is a well-watered county, the principal rivers being the *Tyne*, the *Tweed*, and the *Cocket*. The *Tyne* rises with two arms, at a considerable distance from each other: but a little above *Hexham* they become united. *South Tyne* has its rise in *Cumberland*, but soon enters this county; runs northward for some distance, and then turns easterly. *North Tyne* rises from a place called *Tyne Dale*, in the western part of the county; then, taking a course south east, joins *South Tyne* near *Hexham* before mentioned, and thence takes its way easterly by *Newcastle* into the sea. The *Tweed* divides this county from *Scotland*, where it has its source, and, after having entered this county, journeys on north easterly to *Berwick*, where it enters the German Ocean. The *Cocket* passes *Felton Bridge*, where are taken excellent *Trout*. There are also, in this county, the rivers *Wents-Beck*, which runs by *Morpeth*, and the

the *Alne*, which paſſes by the town of *Alnwick*.

All theſe rivers abound with fiſh. At Berwick are taken vaſt quantities of Salmon, which are pickled and ſent to London by contract. With this the markets are chiefly ſupplied: but it goes under the appellation of Newcaſtle Salmon, though I am confident that very few, if any, cured there.

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE.

The chief river of this county is, the *Trent*, (ſo called, as is ſaid, from its producing thirty kinds of fiſh; or, more probably, from its reception of thirty leſſer rivers,) which has its fountain-head in *Staffordſhire*, and, after running a courſe of two hundred miles, augments the turbulent river *Humber*. It enters this county at the ſouth weſt point, where it joins the *Erwaſh*; running to the eaſtward till it reaches *Newark*, it there forms an iſland, and then turns to the northward into *Lincolnſhire*. The *Idle* has its ſpring in

Sherwood

Sherwood Forest, runs through the northern parts of the county, passing *East* and *West Retford*, to the borders of *Yorkshire* and *Lincolnshire*, where it joins the *Trent*.

The Trent is famous for angling. It produces some Salmon, and abounds with Trout, Grayling, Pike, Perch, and other fish. I have had many days diversion in this water, and have never failed taking fish in abundance, even when others have been out for nearly the whole day without taking any; which they imputed to its being what they termed a bad day for the sport. There is good fishing near the towns of Nottingham and Newark.

OXFORDSHIRE.

This county is well watered by rivers; the principal of which (beside the *Thames*) are, the *Isis*, the *Tame*, and the *Charwell*; which latter, after it has, for a time, parted this county from *Northamptonshire*, passes through the middle of it till it joins the *Isis*. In this part of the river the Rud are

generally more plentiful than higher up. There are alſo the *Windruſh* and the *Evenload.*

All theſe rivers produce ſome Trout, excellent Pike and Perch, and abundance of common fiſh. They are alſo famous for fine Eels.

RUTLANDSHIRE,

Though the ſmalleſt county in England, is well watered; for, beſides the river *Welland*, which waſhes the ſouth and ſouth eaſt borders, and the *Waſh*, which divides the county from eaſt to weſt, there are many ſmaller rivers that fall into them on every ſide.

The fiſh taken in theſe waters are exceedingly good and plentiful, which makes amends for the want of ſea fiſh, occaſioned by the county lying ſo far inland.

SHROPSHIRE.

The chief river of this county is the *Severn*, which I have before noticed in the account of the rivers of *Glouceſterſhire*: but

but it being the river in which I firſt learned the art of Angling in this county, I ſhall ſay ſomething more of it here.

The *Severn* (in this ſhire) is a very beautiful river. It often overflows its banks, and runs with great violence, owing to the rains, which at times deſcend in ſuch torrents from the hills in Wales as occaſion its ſudden riſe. Upon the weather clearing up, it falls nearly as faſt as it roſe before, till it comes within its bounds, and ſoon becomes clear: for, except at ſuch times of overflow, it is as fine and clear a water, abounding with ſtreams, as any that this iſland can boaſt of. Fine *Salmon* is taken near *Shrewſbury;* and numbers of theſe fiſh run up the river quite into *Wales*. The *Salmon* of the *Severn* are (I believe) ſooner in ſeaſon than thoſe of any other river that we have in *England*, though not ſo early as in ſome parts of *Scotland* and *Ireland*. Near the town above mentioned I have often caught fine *Salmon-Trout*, *Trout*, *Grayling*, *Pike*, *Perch*, *Carp*, *Chub*, *Roach*, and *Dace* in abundance;

abundance; *Ruffs*, *Gudgeons*, *Flounders*, and *Eels*; alſo *Salmon-Fry*, and *Gravlings*, or *Gravel-laſt-ſprings*; which latter in this part of the country are called *Sampſons*. Amuſing myſelf one day with taking theſe ſmall but very nice fiſh with an artificial fly made to a ſingle hair, and a fine line tied to the top of a ſlender rod, I roſe and hooked a large fiſh, which at firſt I took to be a Chub, but ſoon found my miſtake by his play. He now began to run very hard, and I was awkwardly ſituated (for I had riſen him over ſome willows, and had no wheel to give him line), which made me fearful of loſing my fiſh, and part of my line into the bargain; for at that time I was not more than ten years of age. He next took a turn down the ſtream, which enabled me to extricate myſelf from the obſtruction of the willows. Inſtantly afterwards I had a large ditch to croſs, which I leaped, keeping my fiſh in good play at the ſame time. Here I had no obſtruction, and my diverſion became highly pleaſing. The conteſt laſted full

twenty minutes, when he fairly gave it up, and I, retreating with caution, gradually led him towards the shore, till at last I brought him flat upon some gravel, where the water did not cover him (for I had not a landing-net); then, laying down my rod, I took him with my fingers in his gills, and carried him in triumph some distance from the water, before I noticed what kind of fish it was. My companion (a youth) then exclaimed, "It is a *Salmon!*" I answered, "No,—it is a *Grayling;*" and such it proved, and perhaps the largest and finest grown fish of the kind ever taken by any means in any river in this kingdom, weighing full five pounds.

The river *Tame*, or *Temd*, which passes by the town of *Ludlow* in this county, and falls into the *Severn* near *Worcester*, abounds with fine *Trout* and *Grayling*, of which kinds I have taken, with a fly, between nine and ten dozen in a day's fishing. The *Wevel* also rises in this county, and runs north to Cheshire. *Terne Brook*, which empties itself into the *Severn* about four

four miles below *Shrewſbury*, produces excellent fiſh, particularly *Perch*, which are aſtoniſhingly large, ſeldom weighing leſs than two pounds, and commonly from three to four. This water, from the *Severn* a conſiderable way upwards, is the property of the preſent Lord Berwick, whoſe grandfather (Mr. Hill) permitted me (when a boy) to angle in any part of it, where I have often taken ſo many of theſe noble *Perch*, that I have gone a mile or two round rather than paſs by that gentleman's hall, as if conſcious that I had made too ſhameful a ſlaughter.

There is alſo fine angling in Lee Brook, about two miles from Wem in this county, wherein are plenty of good Pike, Perch, Eels, &c.

There are ſome good Trout-ſtreams too about *Cundover*, the water of Owen Smythe Owen, Eſq. where I have taken many fine Trouts. In the *Clunn Water* alſo I have taken great numbers; but they are of that kind which do not grow over-large. Here you may often take barren

Trouts, that ſhall be perfectly good all winter, when others are good for nothing.

There are likewiſe ſome Trouts, Ruffs, Carps, and common fiſh to be taken in *Meel Brook*. The Eels in this water are very fine alſo.

SOMERSETSHIRE.

This county is well watered with rivers; for, beſide the mouth of the *Severn*, there are, the *Avon*, which enters this county between four and five miles to the ſouth eaſt of *Bath*, is the boundary between it and *Glouceſterſhire*, and, paſſing by *Briſtol*, runs into the mouth of the *Severn*; the *Brent*, which riſes on the eaſtern edge of the county, and runs to the weſtward by *Glaſtonbury*, below which it becomes a large lake, and then runs into the river *Parret*; the *Parret* riſes on the ſouthern edge of the county, and receives in its courſe (which it takes northward) the *Yeovil* and the *Tome*, then, paſſing by *Bridgewater*, falls into the *Briſtol Channel*.

There

There are alſo, the *Brews*, which runs by *Bruton*; the *Parr*, which paſſes *Langport* and *South Petherton*; and the *Ivel*, which runs by *Ivelcheſter*, now called *Ilcheſter*.

There is good angling for Trout about Mitford, three or four miles above Bath, as I have often experienced; and moſt of theſe rivers produce other good fiſh and fine Eels.

STAFFORDSHIRE.

The chief rivers of this county are, the *Trent*, which is accounted the third river in England, and has its ſource among the *Moorlands* in the north weſt part of the ſhire, but being ſoon augmented by ſeveral rivulets, as well as the *Sow* and *Eccleſhall Water*, paſſes *Stone* and many other towns in this county, and runs eaſterly to *Derbyſhire*; the *Dove*, which riſes in the northern part of this county, forms the boundary between it and *Derbyſhire*, and joins the *Trent*; and the *Sow*, which riſes a few miles to the weſt of *Newcaſtle-under-Line*, and, running by *Stafford*,

to the ſouth eaſt, falls into the *Trent*. There is alſo the river *Tame*, which runs by *Tamworth*.

Theſe rivers contain plenty of fiſh, which afford much ſport to the Angler, more particularly the Trout and Grayling in the Trent.

SUFFOLK.

The chief rivers of this county are, the *Waveney*, the *Deben*, the *Orwell*, and the *Stour*. The *Waveney* riſes on the northern edge of the county, and, running to the north eaſt, after paſſing *Beccles* (at which place I have caught many fine fiſh) forms two branches, one of which runs to the eaſt nearly to *Leoſtoff*, where it makes a ſtop without reaching the ſea, the other runs with an angle to the north, and falls into the *Yare* near *Yarmouth*. The *Deben* riſes a little to the weſtward of *Debenham*, and runs eaſtward to *Wickham*, winds round that town, and journeys to the ſea. The *Orwell* riſes near *Wulpit*, and runs eaſtward to the ſame ſea. The *Stour* riſes

on

on the edge of Cambridgeshire, and runs mostly eastward till it falls into the sea with the *Orwell* at *Harwich*. There are also the *Ald*, which runs near the east side of *Aldburgh*; the *Blyth*, which runs through *Haleworth* and *Southwold*; the *Larke*, which runs by *Bury St. Edmund's* to *Milden-Hall*; and the *Breton*, which passes by *Lavenham*.

There is good angling in this county; as most of these rivers contain excellent fish of different kinds, abundance of Eels, and some Crawfish.

SURREY.

The chief rivers of this county (beside the Thames) are, the *Molsey* or *Mole*, the *Wey*, and the *Wandle*. The *Molsey* rises on the southern borders of Surrey, and takes a course mostly south east. At the foot of *Box-Hill*, near a village called *Mickleham*, this river works its way under ground like a *mole* (from which remarkable circumstance it is supposed to have taken its name), rising again near *Leather-*

head, where its wandering ſtreams are again united, and form a tolerably large river, running under *Leatherhead Bridge* to *Cobham* and *Moleſey*, where it joins the *Thames*. The *Wey* riſes in *Hampſhire*, and enters this county near *Farnham*, increaſing in width till it is paſt *Godalmin*, and running moſtly ſouthward by *Guildford* till it joins the *Thames* at *Oatlands*.

Carſhalton, a village in this county, is ſituate among innumerable ſprings of water, which altogether form a ſmall river in the very center of the town, and, joining other ſprings which come from *Croydon* and *Beddington*, form the river *Wandle*, which runs on by *Mitcham* and *Tooting* till it falls into the *Thames* at *Wandſworth*.

I have taken very good fiſh in the Molſey; but in the Wandle, which is famous for its Trout, I have taken ſome dozens in a day's angling.

SUSSEX.

This county has many rivers, the principal of which (beſide the *Medway*) are, the

the *Arun*, the *Adur*, the *Ouſe*, and the *Rother*. The *Arun* riſes in *St. Leonard's Foreſt* near *Horſham*, and, after running weſtward, turns to the ſouth, and paſſes by *Arundel*, two or three miles below which it falls into the ſea. The *Adur* has its ſpring in the ſame *Foreſt* as the former, and runs nearly the ſame courſe, till it approaches the ſea; it then turns a few miles to the eaſt, and becomes the harbour of *New Shoreham*. The *Ouſe* riſes from two branches, one of which has its ſpring in the ſaid *Foreſt*, the other in the foreſt of *Worth*; but they ſoon unite to the ſouth near *Lewes*, and run to the ſea. The *Rother* riſes near *Rotherfield*, and runs moſtly eaſtward; but a few miles to the north of *Rye* it makes an angle to the ſouth, and, falling into the ſea, forms *Rye Haven*. There are alſo the *Crook* and the *Lavant*, which run near *Chicheſter*.

Theſe rivers have their ſhare of fiſh of various kinds. In the Arun is caught that much-eſteemed fiſh called Mullet. They run from the ſea in large ſhoals; and their feed-

ing

ing (as is ſuppoſed) upon a particular weed that grows in the river, gives them that delicious taſte for which they are ſo highly eſteemed. I have angled in theſe rivers with good ſucceſs.

WARWICKSHIRE.

This county has ſeveral good rivers; the principal of which are, the *Avon*, which riſes in *Leiceſterſhire*, and enters this county a little above *Rugby*; whence running moſtly ſouth weſt, and paſſing *Warwick*, *Stratford*, and *Bitford*, it enters *Worceſterſhire*; the *Tame*, which, upon entering this county, runs eaſtward till it receives the *Blyth*, and then takes a courſe northward; and the *Arrow*, which riſes in *Worceſterſhire*, and, croſſing the weſt ſouth weſt borders of this county, joins the *Avon* near *Bitford*. There are alſo, the *Anker*, which runs by *Atherſton* and *Nuneaton*; the *Cole*, which runs by *Coleſhill*; and the *Sherburn*, near *Coventry*.

I have

I have often caught many dozens of fine fish in the Avon near Warwick. There is also good angling in some of the other rivers of this county.

WESTMORELAND.

The chief rivers of this county are, the *Eden*, the *Lone*, and the *Kan*, or *Ken*. The *Eden*, which rises on the eastern borders of the shire, runs chiefly north west by *Appleby*, and, after receiving eight other rivers, enters *Cumberland*. The *Lone* rises not far from the *Eden*, and, running some little way to the eastward, passes by *Lonsdale* and *Kirby-Steven*, takes its course towards the south, and enters *Lancashire*. The *Kan* flows from a lake called *Kan* or *Kent Meer*, and, running through *Kendal*, (which takes its name from the river,) soon falls into the sea. There is also the river *Lowther*, which rises at *Mow-hill;* and runs by *Lowther*. I cannot help mentioning in this place the remarkable water called *Winander-Meer*,

situate

ſituate among the mountains in the ſouthern part of this county, ſaid to be the greateſt lake in England, and to have received its name from the *Saxons* on account of its winding banks. It is more than ten miles in length, and rocky at bottom, ſomething ſimilar to a pavement. In it are taken the *Charr*, before mentioned in my account of the waters of *Cumberland*.

In the Kan, a little below Kendall, I have had fine diverſion with the Salmon-Trout, which run up the river from the ſea. There is alſo plenty of other Trout in theſe rivers, their bottoms being moſtly rocky, and their ſtreams ſwift.

WILTSHIRE.

This county is pleaſantly watered with rivers; the principal of which are, the Upper and Lower *Avon*, the *Nadder*, the *Willy*, the *Bourne*, and the *Kennet*. The *Upper Avon* riſes from a great ridge of hills which divide the county into north and ſouth, and paſſes ſouthward through many

many villages to *Ambresbury*. The *Lower Avon* has its rise in the northern edge of this shire, and passes by the *Devizes*, *Malmsbury*, *Chippenham*, and *Bradford*. The *Nadder* rises in the south west part of the county, and runs by *Chilmark*. The *Willy* rises near *Warminster*, and runs by *Yarnbury*, *Orchestra*, and *Wilton*. The former of these rivers and the two latter unite their streams at or near *Salisbury*, and then pass on to *Christchurch* in *Hampshire*, taking with them the *Bourne*, which springs in the easternmost part of *Wiltshire*, and, by running south west, joins them below *Salisbury*. The *Kennet* has its spring head in the middle of the county not far from *Marlborough*, which it passes, and takes a course eastward to *Berkshire*.

These rivers abound with good Trout, Grayling, and other fine fish; and I have had excellent diversion in them. About Salisbury, particularly, I have taken some scores of Trout and Grayling.

WORCESTER-

WORCESTERSHIRE.

The principal rivers of this county are, the *Severn*, which enters it on the north weſt ſide, taking a courſe to the ſouthward, and, paſſing by *Worceſter* and *Upton*, ſoon enters Glouceſterſhire; the *Tame*, which, entering this county on the weſt border, has a courſe to the ſouth eaſt till it joins the *Severn*, which it does about two miles below *Worceſter Bridge*; and the *Avon*, which enters the eaſt ſide of the county, paſſing by *Perſhore* and *Eveſham*, and leaves it again at the ſouthernmoſt point. There are alſo, the river *Salwarp*, which runs through *Droitwich* and *Bromſgrove*, and the *Stour*, which paſſes *Kidderminſter* and *Stourbridge*.

In theſe rivers are to be taken Salmon, Salmon-Trout, Trout, Grayling, and moſt other river fiſh. I have caught very good Trout and Grayling in the Tame, near Mr. Berkley's ſeat, about three miles from Worceſter;

cester; and at Broadhurst, between five and six miles. I have also taken some fine Trout in the Stour, near Kidderminster. The Lampreys in the Severn, taken between the cities of Worcester and Gloucester, are large and excellent; and great quantities of Lamprons are taken and potted in these cities.

YORKSHIRE.

This county is watered by an abundance of rivers; the principal of which are, the *Humber*, though this is not properly a distinct river, as not having a spring-head of its own, but rather the mouth or receptacle of divers other rivers, especially the *Trent*, the *Ouse*, the *Darwent*, the *Don*, the *Aire*, the *Calder*, the *Wharfe*, and the *Swale*, that uniting their streams form the *Humber*, which is the most violent current in all the island, and at last falls into the German Ocean between *Yorkshire* and *Lincolnshire*;—the *Trent*, which has been particularly noticed before; the *Ouse*, which rises on the west

north weſt ſide of the county, takes a courſe of ſome length to the ſouth eaſt, dividing the city of *York* into two parts; the *Darwent*, which divides the North and Eaſt Ridings, riſes in the north eaſt part of the county near the ſea, and runs ſouth and ſouth weſt till it joins the *Ouſe*; the *Don*, or *Dun*, which riſes among the hills near the ſouth weſt end of *Yorkſhire*, runs ſouthward by *Rotherham*, where it receives the river *Rother*, then, paſſing on to *Sheffield*, turns to the north eaſt by *Doncaſter*, and, having received the *Aire*, runs into the *Ouſe*; the *Calder*, which has its ſpring in *Lancaſhire*, enters this county on the ſouth weſt ſide, and runs eaſtward into the *Aire*; the *Aire*, which has its ſource at the bottom of a high hill that goes by the name of *Pennigent Hill*, runs to the eaſt by *Skipton*, *Bradford*, and through *Leeds*, joining the *Calder* at *Caſtleford Bridge* near *Pontefract*, and afterwards joining the *Don* (which river has a thouſand windings, and from *Skipton* to *Gargrave* is paſſed over eight times

within three miles); the *Wharfe*, which ſprings among the hills in the weſtern part of the county, and runs with a violent ſtream chiefly to the ſouth eaſt till it enters the *Ouſe;* the *Swale*, which riſes among the hills in the north weſt part of Yorkſhire, runs to the ſouth eaſt by *Richmond*, and joins the river *Ure* a little below *Boroughbridge*, then, running on to *Rippon*, divides the North and Weſt Ridings. There are alſo, the *Hull*, which riſes in this county, and runs near *Beverley;* the *Tees*, which riſes in the county of *Durham*, and, running eaſterly through *Giſborough*, diſcharges itſelf into the German Ocean; the *Ribble*, which is much noted for its Salmon, riſes out of a place called *Ribbledale*, and runs into Lancaſhire; and the *Rhy*, which runs through *Malton*.

There is in the Eaſt Riding of this county a ſmall but rapid ſtream called *Duffield* or *Driffield Beck*, which produces as fine Trout as any river in England, ſeldom weighing leſs than two pounds, and frequently five or ſix.

Most of these rivers produce good Salmon, Salmon-Trout, Trout, Pike, Perch, Eels, and Crawfish (with the latter of which the river Ure abounds); and also plenty of common fish.

The river Humber is said to produce the greatest quantity of that sort of fish which in this part of the country is called the Golden Umber, and in other counties Grayling; and though some are of opinion that they really are a different species of fish, yet I am convinced that they are not, but that different counties give them these separate names.

I have often taken good fish in the river Hull near Beverley, famous for large Pike, which are often caught from seven to eighteen pounds in weight. In some of the lakes in this county (and, if I recollect right, in those of Holderness,) are taken the Rud or Finscale.

NORTH WALES.

ANGLESEY, ISLE OF.

The chief rivers are, the *Brant*, which rises in the east side of the island, and, running mostly south west, falls into the *Mineu*; the *Alow*, which also has its rise in this county, and, after a winding course of some length, loses itself in the Irish sea; and the *Keveny*, which springs from a high hill to the north of *Coydana*, and enters the sea on the south west side of the island.

There is an abundance of fine fish in these rivers, particularly of Salmon-Trout, which are by some called Sea Trout. These run up the rivers from the sea in great numbers all the summer, and afford good diversion to the angler, as I have experienced.

CARNARVONSHIRE.

The chief river of this county is the *Conway*, which rises from a lake where this shire, Denbighshire, and Merionethshire join, (being the boundary between the two first,) and, running northward, becomes remarkably wide near Aberconway, at which place it discharges itself into the sea.

There are in this county some excellent rivers for angling, particularly near Bangor.

DENBIGHSHIRE.

The principal rivers of this county are, the *Clwyd*, which rises in the center of the shire, and, taking a circular course to the south east, afterwards turns to the northward, till it enters *Flintshire*, and then falls into the Irish sea; the *Elwy*, which has its source on the south west edge of the county, and runs mostly towards the north east into *Flintshire*, where it falls into the *Clwyd*; and the *Dee*, which runs from

from *Merionethshire* into this county, and becomes the boundary between it and *Cheshire*.

These rivers afford good diversion to an angler, which I have more than once enjoyed.

FLINTSHIRE.

This county is watered by many rivers, the chief of which are, the *Clwyd*, the *Elwy*, the *Wheeler*, the *Dee*, the *Sevion*, and the *Alen*; all which afford great quantities of good fish. The *Clwyd* and the *Elwy* unite their streams at St. Asaph, where I have caught many excellent Trout of a superior flavour to those taken in *England*.

MERIONETHSHIRE.

The principal rivers of this county are, the *Dee*, the *Avon*, and the *Drurydh*. The *Dee*, which has its rise in this county, is supposed to pass through the lake called *Pemble-Meer* without mixing its waters

 with

with thoſe of the lake, which is a large water, and abounds with a much-eſteemed kind of fiſh called a *Guiniad*, as the *Dee* does with *Salmon;* and yet it is very remarkable, that there are never any *Salmon* taken in the *Lake*, nor any *Guiniad* in the *River*. After the *Dee* leaves this water, it takes a north eaſt courſe into *Denbighſhire*. The *Avon* has its ſpring in *Beroſe-Wood*, on the eaſt ſide of the county, and, taking a north weſterly courſe, loſes itſelf in *St. George's Channel*. The *Drurydh* flows from a *Lake* in the north of this county, and, taking a courſe to the ſouth weſt, runs into the Iriſh ſea.

All theſe rivers produce great plenty of fiſh, particularly of the Salmon and Trout kind, of which I have taken many.

MONTGOMERYSHIRE.

This county is exceedingly well watered by a number of ſmall rivers, which run from all quarters of it into the *Severn*, a river which adds greatly to the beauty of the

the country where it has its ſpring from the firſt mountain of Plinlimmon, and of which I have ſpoken before. The rivers *Rhydel* and *Wye* iſſue from the ſame mountain, but ſoon leave the county. The *Tenat*, which riſes towards the north weſt ſide of the county, takes a courſe to the eaſtward, and becomes part of the northern boundary between this ſhire and Denbighſhire, and falls into the *Severn* at the north eaſt point of the county. The *Turgh* has its ſource on the weſtern ſide of the ſhire, and runs eaſtward till it comes to the foot of Mount Golway, where it turns to the north, and, after receiving the river *Wurway*, falls into the *Tenat*.

An angler meets with excellent ſport in theſe rivers, which have great quantities of choice fiſh, of which I have had a ſhare.

SOUTH WALES.

BRECKNOCKSHIRE *or* BRECONSHIRE.

The chief rivers are, the *Usk*, which rises from a spring on the east of the Black Mountain in the south west part of the county, takes a course to the north, and then, turning to the east, enters Monmouthshire; the *Wye*, which forms the north boundary between this county and Radnorshire, and then runs into Herefordshire; the *Irvon*, which rises among the mountains to the north west, runs at first to the south, and afterwards north easterly into the *Wye*; the *Tavye*, which issues from the foot of the Black Mountain above mentioned, and runs into Glamorganshire; as does the *Rumney*, soon after its rise in this county.

I have caught many dozens of fine Trout near the town of Brecon, and in other places of this county; but the Salmon taken in the Usk are not accounted so good as others.

There is a large water about the middle of the county, called Brecknock-meer, which is some miles over, and contains such quantities of fish, that it is common to hear the people say, that there are only two-thirds water to one of fish.

CARMARTHENSHIRE.

The chief rivers are, the *Toway*, which enters this county on the north east side, runs mostly south and south west through *Carmarthen*, and afterwards falls into the Bristol Channel; the *Cotley*, which runs mostly from north to south, till it joins the *Toway*; the *Teivy*, or *Tavey*, which has its source in Cardiganshire, and is the boundary between that county and this, till, having received the river *Keach*, it divides this county from Pembrokeshire.

In these rivers are taken fine Salmon, Salmon-Trout, Trout, and other good fish. I have had excellent diversion in the Toway, from the Bishop's seat, down to near Carmarthen; particularly in taking a kind of Trout,

Trout, called by the inhabitants of this country Sewen or Souen, which are here very much esteemed, and afford great sport to the angler; yet it is very remarkable, that the people here never knew of any being taken by angling till the first time that I angled in this water; and many have been very much surprised at seeing me take, in an afternoon, from a dozen to eighteen or twenty of them, with an artificial fly.

CARDIGANSHIRE.

The principal rivers of this county are, the *Toway*, which rises in this county, and runs into Carmarthenshire; the *Teivy*, which rises from a hill of the same name in the eastern part of the county, parts it from Pembrokeshire, and, running for some length among rocks and stones, loses the appearance of a river; after which, however, it begins to have a regular channel, and then, running towards the south west, loses itself in St. George's Channel below Cardigan; and the *Rhydel*, which has its source on the south west side

of Plinlimmon Hill before mentioned, runs towards the ſouth weſt of this county, and falls into the ſame channel. The *Iſtwyth*, which has its ſpring near the lead-mines on the north-eaſt ſide of the county, alſo falls into St. George's Channel with the *Rhydel*.

Theſe rivers produce great plenty of fiſh. The Teivy is very remarkable for its Salmon. Here alſo I have had admirable ſport.

GLAMORGANSHIRE.

The chief rivers are, the *Avon*, which riſes among the hills in the northern part of this county, and diſcharges itſelf into the Briſtol Channel; the *Rumney*, which is ſoon claimed by this county, becomes the boundary between it and Monmouthſhire, and at laſt falls into the mouth of the *Severn;* the *Ogmore*, which riſes in the northern boundaries of this county, runs to the ſouthward through the middle of it, into the Briſtol Channel; and the *Tavye*, which enters at the north weſt of the county,

county, and runs towards the ſouth weſt, till it joins the Briſtol Channel at Swanſey. There is alſo the *Elri*, and many other ſmall ſtreams.

The rivers here have great variety of fiſh, and to my knowledge afford good angling.

PEMBROKESHIRE.

This county has ſeveral fine rivers; the principal of which are, the *Teivy*, which parts it from Carmarthenſhire; the *Clethy*, which flows from Wrenywaur-hill, and, taking a ſouth weſt courſe, joins the river *Dougledye;* and the *Dougledye*, which ſprings near the middle of the county, and, after having joined the *Cledhewen*, paſſes by *Haverfordweſt*, and at length, receiving the *Clethy*, continues its courſe to *Milford-haven*, where it joins the ſalt water.

All theſe are good Trout rivers, and have plenty of other fiſh.

RADNOR-

RADNORSHIRE.

This county is well watered; for, beside the *Tame* or *Temd*, which on the north east divides this county from Shropshire, and the *Wye*, which washes the west side, there are, the *Ithon*, which rises in the north of the county, and, winding towards the south west, after having received several streams, joins the *Wye*; and the *Somergil*, which runs near the town of *Radnor*. Several other streams also arise in this county, run into Shropshire and Herefordshire, and afford good fish; *and the rivers in general abound with such excellent Trout and Grayling, that it is delightful to angle in them. Indeed all the rivers of Wales, both north and south, have great variety of fish.*

SCOTLAND.

ABERDEENSHIRE.

The principal rivers of this county are, the *Dee* and the *Don*. It is bounded on the ſouth by the former, which, after a long courſe, runs through the New Town of *Aberdeen*, and then falls into the ſea. The *Don*, which paſſes by *Kintore* and *Inverury*, has a winding courſe of many miles, and falls into the ſea juſt below the *Old Town* of *Aberdeen*, which is diſtant from that of the *New Town* ſomewhat more than a mile; and though theſe rivers join the ſea ſo near each other, yet they have ſuch different courſes, that a few miles up they are conſiderably apart. Theſe excellent rivers produce ſuch quantities of fine fiſh, as is really aſtoniſhing! particularly *Salmon*, which brings in conſiderable profits to the proprietors of the fiſheries, who are united into companies, on account of the great number of ſhares, of which no perſon can hold above one

at

at a time. The *Dee* produces more Salmon than the *Don*, but the latter has the moſt Trout, which I am convinced are better than thoſe taken in any other river within my knowledge, either in Great Britain or Ireland. I have often caught many dozens of theſe fine Trout; and once, in particular, aſtoniſhed ſeveral gentlemen of *Aberdeen* (who were no ſtrangers to the art of angling) by taking a fine diſh of them at a time when the ſnow-water from the hills came down the river in abundance, being a cold day about the middle of March.

I have alſo caught fine Salmon, Grills, and Whitlings in theſe rivers, and other fiſh of the Salmon kind, which afford much ſport to the angler.

There are alſo, the beautiful river *Deveron*, which runs round one ſide of the town of *Strathbogie;* and the river *Bogie*, which ſurrounds the other ſide, and then joins the *Deveron*.

Theſe rivers are both famous for Trout.

AYRSHIRE.

AYRSHIRE.

The chief rivers are, the *Aire*, which has a long courſe, with its banks beautifully adorned with woods and gentlemen's ſeats, and, running moſtly from eaſt to weſt, falls into the ſea; the *Coil*, which falls into the river *Aire* about four miles above the town of *Ayr;* the *Stinchêr*, the *Girven*, and the *Irvin*, the laſt of which divides *Ayr* from *Cunningham*. By theſe rivers and ſeveral ſmaller ſtreams this county is well watered; beſide which, there is an extenſive lake called *Dun*, ſome miles in length and breadth, with an iſland, whereon is an old caſtle of the ſame name.

Theſe rivers yield very fine fiſh, particularly Salmon and Trout.

ARGYLESHIRE *or* INVERARY.

This county has a remarkable number of *lochs* or *lakes* which abound with fiſh. *Loch-Aw*, between twenty and thirty miles in length, and in ſome places only one in breadth,

breadth, is said to contain twelve islands. From it issues a river called *Aw*, which runs a course of some few miles, then enters *Loch-Ediff* (which is much noted for Salmon), and afterwards falls into the western sea not far from the *Isle of Mull*. *Loch-Leven* is a water of great extent and full of fish. There are also several rivers in the *Isle of Arran* that abound with *Salmon* and *Trout*; beside which there are many rivers in other parts of the shire.

BANFFSHIRE.

This county is well watered by several fine rivers; the chief of which are, the *Spey*, a noble, rapid river, which runs on the west through this shire, passing by *Gordon Castle*, the town of *Fochabers*, and other places of note; the *Dovern* or *Deveron*, which runs on the east, a branch of which passes through the town of *Keith*, and becomes very broad before it reaches the town of *Banff*, below which it meets the sea; and the *Ugie*, which runs

on the south, and divides it from *Aberdeenshire*.

These rivers, especially the Spey, abound with Salmon and other fine fish.

BERWICKSHIRE.

The principal rivers are, the *Tweed*, a beautiful large river, by which the county is partly bounded on the south; the *Lauder*, which runs through a town of the same name, and past *Lauderfort*, the seat of the noble family of the *Maitlands*, keeping its course due north; the *Eye*, which runs by *Ayeton*, and joins the sea at *Eyemouth*. There is also the *Black Water* and the *White Water*.

All of these contain many kinds of fish in abundance.

BUTESHIRE AND CAITHNESS.

The river or water of *Thurso* gives name to the town of *Thurso*, which it passes on the east side, and is very famous for *Salmon*,

mon, which are said to keep in the river all the year.

There are numbers of other rivers and lakes in this part of the country, which produce uncommon quantities of fish.

DUMBARTONSHIRE.

The principal rivers are, the *Clyde* and the *Leven*. By the former the country is partly bounded on the south; the latter runs from *Loch-Lomond*, and joins the *Clyde*, at the confluence of which stands the town of *Dumbarton*. The *loch* above mentioned, which is situate among the mountains, is said to be full twenty-four miles in length and eight in breadth. It contains thirty islands, three of which have churches, and several of the rest are inhabited. It abounds with different sorts of fish, particularly a delicious kind called *Poans* or *Pollac*, a kind of *Eel*.

I have often angled in the river Clyde, and taken fine Salmon, Trout, Perch, and other fish in great plenty.

DUMFRIES.

The principal rivers of this county are, the *Annan* and the *Neith*, or *Nid*. The former runs through the middle of the county, paſſing by *Moffat*, and receiving ſeveral ſmaller rivers in its courſe, which is between twenty and thirty miles, runs on to *Annan*, and afterwards falls into the *Solway Firth*. The latter runs from *Loch-Cure*, paſſing *Dumfries*, and dividing this ſhire from the *Stewartry of Galloway*, and then joins the *Solway Firth*. There are alſo many very fine Trout-ſtreams that run into theſe rivers.

Near Dumfries and Annan I have taken large quantities of fine fiſh. The rivers abound with excellent Salmon, Trout, &c.; but the Annan is much the beſt for angling.

EDINBURGHSHIRE, OR MID LOTHIAN.

The river *Leith*, commonly called the *Water* of *Leith*, riſes ſome conſiderable diſtance above Edinburgh, runs very rapidly

pidly after rains; has a winding course, in which it passes by the *castle* of the city, and joins the *Firth* at *Leith*. It is a small river upwards, from a little above *Leith*, and in the midst of summer is nearly dry, except where there are mill-pools.—I have taken very fine *Trout* in many parts of this water, and often near Edinburgh. There is also a river called *Esk*, which passes the town of *Dalkeith*, and several others in this county, wherein there is good angling.

ELGINSHIRE.

This county has several fine rivers; among the principal of which is, the *Spey*, which, next to the *Tay*, is accounted the most considerable in the north of Scotland, and the most rapid of all the kingdom. It has its spring in *Badenoch*, and, exclusive of its turnings and windings, has a course of upwards of seventy miles, falling at last into the North Sea. The *Ness* rises from a lake called *Caich*, near the *Irish Sea*, from which it

has its name for a few miles; running north easterly, it falls into *Loch-Garif*, afterwards into a water called *Eawic*, and then, taking a course towards the south east, falls into *Loch-Ness*. The *Lossie* springs a few miles above this county, and falls into the sea a few miles below it, nearly surrounding the town of Elgin in its course, and abounding with Salmon even to the very head. All these rivers have excellent fisheries, wherein are taken every season such vast quantities of *Salmon* and other fish as would seem incredible to a stranger. *Loch-Ness* is about twenty-four miles in length, and said to be of unknown depth. It is likewise remarkable for *never freezing*.

Many of these lochs are formed of rivers, which, descending from their springs in flowing rills, and augmenting their streams, become rivers; then, meeting with hollow places in their passage (some of them of vast extent among hills), expand into lakes, or lochs, till, finding a proper channel, they resume their form of rivers. Thus will some

of

of them expand several times before they finish their course to the sea.

FIFESHIRE.

This county is watered by several rivers; of which, beside the *Forth* and the *Tay*, the *Leven* and the *Edin* are the chief. The *Leven* flows from *Lough-Leven* at *Kinross*, and runs from thence by *Lesly* to *Ely*, a town situated on the west side of its mouth.

The Salmon in this river are esteemed the best in this part of Scotland; and the Lough abounds with Trout from four or five to twelve or fourteen pounds weight.

The *Edin* or *Eden* runs by the county town of *Cowpar*, *and is also famous for fish.*

FORFARSHIRE, OR ANGUS.

The principal rivers of this county are, the *Tay*, which enters it a little above *Dundee*, a few miles below which it falls into the Firth of *Tay*; and the *North-Esk* and *South-Esk*, which nearly surround the

town of *Montrose*, and then fall into the northern sea, near four miles distance from each other.

These rivers abound with excellent Salmon and Trout, of which I have taken great quantities in the North-Esk, about four miles from Montrose. Once in particular, so late in the year as the 24th of December, I took (with a fly) a fine dish of Trout, by some called White Trout, but here called Whitlings. They had just run from the sea, and appeared as bright as silver. These fish are greatly esteemed; they afford the angler much sport, and more or less of them are to be found in this river at all times; in the winter, where the tide flows; and in spring and summer, at a distance up the rivers, in the most rapid streams.

HADDINGTONSHIRE, OR EAST LOTHIAN.

The chief rivers of this county are, the *Firth*, which runs to *Dunbar Harbour*, and the *Tyne*, a small though pretty river, which rises from the hills near *Yester*, and, after

after watering a fine and pleasant vale, runs through the town of *Haddington; near which is good angling for Trout and other fish.*

INVERNESS.

The principal river of this shire is the *Ness*, the particulars whereof have been before mentioned, and which, after quitting Lough-Ness, discharges itself into the *Firth* of *Murray*, at the bottom of which stands the town of *Inverness*.

In this river are taken larger Salmon, and greater quantities of Trout, than are to be found elsewhere in Scotland.

KINCARDINESHIRE.

The principal rivers are, the *Dee*, which separates this county from *Aberdeenshire*, and the *North-Esk*, by which it is bounded on the south.

These rivers have been particularly spoken of before.

THE

THE STEWARTRY OF KIRKCUDBRIGHT, OR LOWER GALLOWAY.

The principal rivers are, the *Nith* and the *Dee*. The former has been spoken of before; the latter rises from the mountains near *Carrick*, and joins the sea at *Kircudbright*, having so remarkable a winding course, that, though it is not above seventy miles in a line, it is said to run near two hundred. There is also the *Ken*, which runs through *New Galloway*.

These rivers, with others of less note in this stewartry, produce fine Trout, and afford the angler much sport.

LANARKSHIRE, OR CLYDESDALE.

The principal rivers are, the *Clyde*, the *Annan*, and the *Tweed*; the two former rising from a mountain called *Errick Hill*, and the latter discharging itself into the German Ocean, near the mouth of the *Firth*.

Firth. There is alſo the river *Douglas*, which falls into the *Clyde* a little below the town of *Lanark*.

Theſe rivers produce good fiſh.

NAIRNSHIRE.

The principal river is the *Nairn*, which runs on the ſouth weſt part of the county, and meets the ſea below the town of *Nairn*, which ſtands upon its mouth. There are alſo the *Calder*, which runs by a caſtle of the ſame name, and the *Findhorn*, which runs by a ſeat of the *Earl of Murray*, called *Tarnaway Caſtle*. There are beſide many *lakes* and ſmaller *rivers*, that produce prodigious quantities of *Salmon*, *Trout*, *and other fiſh*.

PEEBLESHIRE, OR TWEEDALE.

The chief river is the *Tweed*, which is ſaid to have given name to the county. It riſes at a place called *Tweed's Croſs*, runs from weſt to eaſt through the country,

and

and receives several rivers in its course, which it takes by the town of *Peebles*. The river *Yarrow* runs from a loch called *West Water Loch*, which abounds with fish, particularly Eels, of which there are incredible quantities. On the top of a hill called *Genen* is *Lochgenen Lake*, from which a river runs that falls into *Annandale* from a precipice computed to be two hundred and fifty feet high, and where many times the *fish* are killed by the fall of the water.

PERTHSHIRE.

The chief river of this county is the *Tay*, a most beautiful water, which, as I have been informed, springs from a small *lake*, or kind of large *basin*, on the top of one of the *Breadalbane mountains*, which is supposed to be unfathomable, and wherein are numbers of small *Trout*. From this issue several little rills, but these, soon uniting, become one stream, which runs first to the north through the country of *Breadalbane*,

bane, and there, receiving many other rivers, expands itself into *Loch-Tay*, about twenty miles in length, and seven in breadth; after which, finding a proper channel, it becomes a fine rapid river, taking its name from the *loch*. It nearly surrounds the town of *Dunkeld*, situate at the foot of the *Grampian Hills*; has a long course, traversing the very heart of Scotland (passing *Perth* and *Dundee*), till it enters the sea. The river *Ern* rises far west, on the *frontiers* of the *western hills* near *Glengill*, and, running through the pleasant country of *Strathern*, falls into the *Tay* below *Perth*, after running a course of about thirty-four miles, wherein it passes many gentlemen's seats on both sides of it. The river *Timel* runs near the pass of *Gillicranky*, about fourteen miles from *Dunkeld*. The *Keith*, which is famous for its *Salmon Fishery*, has a cataract near the *Blair* of *Dummond*, the sound of which among the rocks is so loud as nearly to stun those who come

nigh

nigh it. This river also falls into the *Tay*.

In the Tay, near Perth, I have often taken fine Salmon and Trout, with which this river abounds; and once, in particular, with a fly, I caught more Trout of different kinds than I was able to carry home, weighing from one to three or four pounds each; which much surprised several gentlemen who were thought to be good anglers, and who had been out all that day, and had taken only seventeen.—Another time, being in October, I went up the Tay about four miles, and had but just begun angling when a kind of fleet began to fall; and the faster it came down, the more eagerly the fish took, for about two hours, when I was obliged to quit my station, the fleet terminating in a general snow. By this time, however, I had taken upwards of three dozen of Trout (here called Whitlings), all in good season.

In the Fishery, a little above the bridge at Perth, and opposite Scone House, I have seen seventy-four Salmon taken at one draught,

and

and have been told by the fishermen that they very often take more. These Salmon are cured in the same manner as those taken at Berwick, and sent to London and other markets.

RENFREWSHIRE.

The chief river of this county is, the *Clyde*, which runs on one side of it, passing by *Glasgow*, to the sea, below *Greenock*. There are also the *White Cart* and the *Black Cart*, upon the former of which stands the town of *Paisley*. These waters, uniting their streams, fall into the *Clyde*.

I have taken fine Trout, Perch, and other fish, a few miles above Glasgow.

ROSS.

This county abounds with *lochs* and *rivers* which produce great quantities of fish; and there are fisheries established for taking both river and sea fish; for many of their lochs are properly inlets of the sea,

wherein are taken numbers of white fish, particularly Herrings and Cod.

There is also good angling in the rivers, at a distance from the sea.

ROXBURGHSHIRE.

The principal rivers are, the *Tweed*, the *Tefy*, and the *Jed*. The former of these runs through *Kelso*, but does not part *Scotland* from *England*, though it passes near the English borders. The two latter unite their streams near *Jedburgh*, which takes its name from the river *Jed*.

An angler may find good sport in these rivers.

SELKIRKSHIRE.

The chief rivers are, the *Ettrick*, which runs through a forest of the same name; the *Yarrow*, before spoken of; and the *Galla-Water*.

These rivers produce plenty of Eels, and some other good fish.

STIRLINGSHIRE.

The principal river is the *Forth*, which is by ſome reckoned the moſt famous, though not the longeſt river in Scotland. It riſes near the hill called *Lomond*, and, running by *Stirling*, takes a remarkably ſerpentine courſe, perhaps the moſt beautiful ever ſeen in nature. The form of its winding may be conceived by the length of the way, for it is upwards of twenty-four miles from *Stirling* to *Alloa* by water, and ſcarcely four miles by land. It afterwards joins the *Firth* near *Edinburgh*. There is alſo the river *Allan*, which runs by the town of *Dumblain*.

Theſe rivers produce Salmon and Trout in abundance. About four miles above Stirling there is as good Trout-fiſhing as I ever experienced.

SUTHERLANDSHIRE.

This county has a great many *rivers* and *lochs;* the number of the latter

is ſaid to be above fifty, the largeſt of which is *Loch-Fin*, near twenty miles long. In ſhort, this county is ſo well watered by *bays*, *rivers*, *and lochs*, that moſt of their *towns* are waſhed with ſalt or freſh water, as are the Highlands in general, the Orkneys not excepted.

Their waters abound with Salmon, Trout, plenty of Cod and other ſea-fiſh; Eels, and moſt kinds of ſhell-fiſh.

WIGTONSHIRE, OR UPPER GALLOWAY.

This is a mountainous country, and has many *rivers* and *lochs*, which lie everywhere under the hills, and produce excellent fiſh of various kinds, particularly prodigious quantities of fine Eels. The river *Loſſie* runs near *Port-Patrick*, and affords good angling.

The rivers of Scotland are remarkably clear, and in general abound with large rock-ſtones, which in many places appear ſeveral feet above the ſurface of the water, and lie very thick together; and the bottoms

and

and banks being frequently lined with the ſame uneven, rocky ſubſtance, cauſes many violent ſtreams and falls of water. This country has alſo ſo many inlets of the ſea on every ſide, that there is ſcarcely any part of it above forty or fifty miles from ſome bay, creek, or arm of the ocean: all which circumſtances occaſion the rivers of Scotland to abound more with Salmon and Trout than thoſe of other countries, where the rivers are more inland, more muddy, and the ſtreams leſs rapid.

IRELAND.

The principal Rivers and Loughs of this country are the following:

The *Shannon*, as noble a river as any European iſland can boaſt of, and which in its courſe receives many other rivers, takes its riſe from a ſpring among the mountains near *Swadlingbar*. It then expands into *Lough*

Allen, eight or nine miles in length, and four or five in breadth. It afterwards forms *Lough Ree*, about fifteen miles long, and beautifully diverſified with about ſixty iſlands; and ſhortly afterwards expands into a third called *Lough-Derg*, which is ſtill larger, and upon which are about fifty iſlands; the moſt extenſive of which, called *Ilanmore*, contains about an hundred acres of well-cultivated, fertile land; on another, called *Holy Iſland*, are the ruins of ſeven churches and a high round tower. The *Shannon* then runs on to *Limerick*, having in this courſe many beautiful water-falls; ſo that in one hundred and twenty-eight miles the fall is one hundred and fifty feet. From this place it is navigable to the ſea, which is about ſixty-three miles more.

This river (which divides the province of Connaught from Leinſter and Munſter) after leaving theſe lakes runs very violently in many places, and abounds with delightful ſtreams, which are frequented by excellent *Salmon* and *Trout*. It alſo produces the

largeſt

largeſt *Pike* and *Eels* that I ever ſaw, and very fine *Perch*.

Three or four miles above Limerick I have often taken large Salmon, and dozens of fine Trout. There is good angling near the Salmon Fiſhery, a little above the town; and alſo below it, near the great bridge.

In this *water*, particularly in ſome of the *Loughs*, is taken a ſpecies of freſh-water Trout, which never viſits the ſea, and is called by the people of the country *Gilderoy* or *Gill-a-roe Trout*. They are very large and beautiful, weighing from two or three pounds up to thirty; but what is moſt ſurpriſing in theſe fiſh is, their having gizzards within them every way ſimilar to that of a fowl; and thoſe taken from the *large Trouts* are full as large as turkies' gizzards. Theſe fiſh are much eſteemed for their fine flavour, which is ſuperior to that of any other. They are of the ſame make as other *Trout*, except being thicker in proportion to their length, and much redder, both before and after being dreſſed.

The *Suire*, the *Neor*, and the *Barrow*, ſpring from a mountain called *Slieu-Bloom*. The *Suire* flows from a branch of it called *Bein-Duffe*, in the county of *Tipperary*, and runs firſt to the ſouth-eaſt, then ſoutherly for near forty miles, when it turns to the north and afterwards to the eaſt, and at length receives the *Neor* and the *Barrow*.

This river runs through the towns of Clonmell and Carrick, where there is excellent angling for Salmon and Trout.

The *Neor* riſes out of the ſame branch, and, running to the ſouth eaſt, falls into the *Barrow*. The *Barrow* riſes out of the ſame mountain in the *Queen's County*, and after taking a northerly courſe turns to the ſouth, and before it reaches *Roſs* is joined by the *Neor;* from this place it continues a ſoutherly courſe under the name of the river of *Roſs*, and, being joined by the *Suire*, they all loſe themſelves in the ſea below *Waterford*.

All theſe rivers produce excellent fiſh, particularly Salmon and Trout. In the Barrow,

row, near Kilkenny and Carlow, there is very good angling.

There is a ſmall river called *Kilmachow* or *Kilmycow River*, which runs by the ſeat of *Godfrey Greene* Eſq. and falls into the *Suire* about two miles above *Waterford*, wherein I have often angled, and never miſſed taking plenty of good *Trout*. There is alſo another river, which runs through the park of the Marquis of Waterford, and falls into the *Suire* about eight miles above *Waterford*.

I have often fiſhed through his lordſhip's park, and never failed to meet with good ſport.

The *Black-Water*, by ſome called the *Broad-Water*, ſprings from a mountain in the county of *Kerry*, and after running ſome little way to the ſouth, and receiving many ſtreams, takes an eaſterly direction, till at length, turning ſuddenly to the ſouth, it continues its courſe to the *Bay of Youghall*. There are, however, other rivers in this country that are called the *Black-Water*, one of which falls into the

Shannon, another into the *Boyne*, and another (in the county of *Wexford*) runs into the ſea.

The river *Bann*, famous for its *Salmon Fiſhery*, riſes out of a mountain in the county of *Down*, and, flowing northward, after a courſe of near thirty miles, receiving the river *Tanwagee*, falls into *Loughneagh*, and, paſſing through it, keeps on a northerly courſe, dividing the counties of *Antrim* and *Londonderry*, and falls into the ſea near *Coleraine*.

The *Lee* flows from a *lake* in the county of *Cork*, and has an eaſterly courſe of about thirty miles; it then becomes much enlarged by the number of ſtreams that it receives, and, paſſing by Cork, diſcharges itſelf into the ſea.

This river produces excellent fiſh, particularly Salmon and Trout, the former of which are always in ſeaſon, like thoſe of the river Wye in England; the latter run very large, and are much eſteemed for their fine flavour. I have often angled in this water, and have had excellent diverſion. There are alſo ſe-

veral

veral ſmaller rivers round about Cork, which afford the angler good ſport, particularly at Upper and Lower Glanmire, about four miles from Cork, and Blarney, about three miles.

The *Liffey* riſes in the county of *Wicklow*, and takes a circling courſe through that and the counties of *Kildare* and *Dublin*, paſſing by *Leixlip*, *Chapel-izod*, and the city of *Dublin*, below which it diſcharges itſelf into *Dublin Bay*.

Some good Salmon are taken in this river, and plenty of Trout, of which I have caught many dozens above the city; but they are the worſt of their kind that I ever remember to have ſeen.

There is a ſmall ſtream, called *Caſtle-Knock river*, that runs into the *Liffey* below *Dublin*, and out of which I have taken a number of good Trout.

The *Boyne* riſes in the *King's County*, and falls into the ſea at *Drogheda*. It is a very conſiderable river, and is famous for excellent *Salmon* and *Trout*.

There

There are alſo the rivers *Nure*, *Slaine*, and *May*, in the province of *Leinſter*;—the *Moy*, in the county of *Mayo*, which, for ſome way, divides it from *Sligo*, and falls into the Ocean near *Mayo* and *Killalo*; the *Suck*, which divides *Roſcommon* from *Galway*, and falls into the *Shannon* near *Clonfert*; the *Droſos*, a river in the county of *Clare*, which alſo falls into the *Shannon*; and the *Gall* in *Galway*, which falls into a bay of the ſame name. This province of *Connaught*, and that of *Ulſter*, abound with extenſive and beautiful lakes; *Lough-Erne* and *Lough-Neagh* are accounted the largeſt in Ireland; the former has two branches, which extend through the whole county of *Fermanagh*, dividing it into two almoſt equal parts. It is about thirty miles in length, but of an unequal breadth, and is ſaid to contain four hundred little iſlands, ſome of which are inhabited.

This water contains great quantities of fine Salmon and Trout, Pike of a prodigious ſize, and great numbers of rich Eels.

Lough-

Lough-Neagh is an extremely large lake, being more than twenty miles in length, and about twelve broad, exclusive of *Lough-Beg*, which is joined to the north west end of it by a narrow channel, and is four miles in length and four in breadth. *Lough-Neagh* is very remarkable for receiving ten rivers (most of them very considerable) and several brooks, yet having but one narrow outlet for discharging this great flux of water, and for communicating its benefits to the counties of *Armagh*, *Tyrone*, *Londonderry*, *Antrim*, and *Down*.

This water contains plenty of fine fish, particularly a sort of Trout called Bodach or Churl, some of which have been taken that weighed thirty pounds.

Lough-Lene (more commonly called the *Lake of Killarney*) in the province of *Munster* and county of *Kerry*, is remarkable for its singular beauties, being interspersed with a variety of picturesque islands, many of them rich in herbage and well inhabited.

It

It is properly two lakes: the lower is about seven miles long and four broad, and communicates with the upper one by a narrow passage of about three miles in length, a small part of which is not navigable by reason of a shallow descent of the water. The waters that are collected into the upper lake from the mountains, and from the little river *Flesk*, pass into the lower lake, and are thence discharged into the sea, which is distant about twenty miles, by an outlet, or small river, called the *Lane* or *Lene*.

The upper lake is about three miles long and one in breadth, and is quite encompassed with high mountains, the most remarkable of which are those of *Glena* and the *Turk*; and behind these are others still higher, called the *Reeks*. Eight islands embellish this lake. The echos produced by the sound of the French-horn and the explosion of cannon are repeated, and rebound as it were among the mountains; the latter at first resembling loud thunder, dying gradually away and then reviving, till it finally expire.

In these waters is most excellent angling for Trout and other fish.

There are many more *lochs*, some of which are properly inlets of the sea; as *Lough-Foyle*, about fourteen miles long and eight wide, into which the sea flows by a channel about a mile over; the *Lough* of *Strangford* in the county of Down, which extends from *Newtown* in the north to *Strangford* in the south, near twenty miles, and is in some places more than five miles broad, having about fifty small islands.

There are also, the *Swilly*, in the county of *Donegal*, which falls into the northern ocean; the *Lagan-Water*, in the county of Down, which passes by *Dromore*, *Lisburne*, and *Belfast*, into the bay of *Carrickfergus*; and the *Newry-Water*, which parts *Down* from *Armagh*, and falls into the bay of *Carlingford*.

I shall here remark, that there are innumerable brooks and rivulets, both in Great Britain and Ireland, which afford the sportsman as much diversion as many of the larger rivers, and that there are several rivers of the same name in each country.

The

The *hospitality* that I have experienced throughout my travels, particularly in Scotland and Ireland, has ever been unbounded, and is justly entitled to my most grateful acknowledgements.

ANGLING

IN

ALL ITS BRANCHES,

&c. &c. &c.

PART THE SECOND.

A description of all the different kinds of fish that are to be taken by angling in the rivers and other waters of England, Wales, Scotland, and Ireland—Their natures; seasons; spawning times; and, particularly, the ingenious manner in which the Salmons and Trouts make their beds for the purpose of casting their seed therein, &c.—The curious water-falls called Salmon leaps, with an account of the surprising activity and exertion of that fish in leaping—The real manner of Eels breeding—The haunts and feeding-times of

each

each fish—How to angle for them in the best and surest ways, and to manage them when hooked.—Rods; materials for the best; and the proper tackle for every kind of fish as severally described—Instructions for procuring and preserving the best baits—The best method for those who reside in the country, and wish to make their own rods, of procuring and seasoning stocks and tops for that purpose, and how to make them in the best manner—A proper glue for spliced rods; and a most excellent varnish, for preventing them from decaying, or being worm-eaten—How to make hair-lines, and to choose hairs, gut, hooks, floats, &c.—Things necessary for the angler to take out with him—The best methods of colouring gut or hair;—with many other useful, curious, and pleasing subjects; concluding with a short sketch of some methods for salt-water angling.

Name

Names of fishes taken by angling in our rivers, &c.

1st, *Those of passage.*

SALMON,
Salmon-Fry,
Salmon-Trout,
Bull-Trout or Scurf,
Bulger-Trout,
White Trout, Sewen or Whitling,
Gravling, Last-spring, Shedder, Gravel-last-spring, or Sampson,
Mullet,
Smelt,
Barbel,
Flounder,
Eel.

2d, *Those that do not visit the salt water.*

Trout,
Grayling,
Pike-Luce or Jack,

Perch,
Ruff or Pope,
Gudgeon,
Tench,
Carp,
Chub, Chevin, Nob, or Botling,
Rudd or Finſcale,
Bream,
Roach,
Dace or Dare,
Bleak, Bley, or Whiting,
Minnow,
Loach,
Bull-head or Miller's Thumb,
Stickleback, Banſtickle, or Sharpling.

OF THE SALMON.

THE Salmon may juſtly be termed, among freſh-water fiſh, the ſuperior of the rivers, both as it is the largeſt in ſize, and the moſt excellent in its nature. It is a very handſome-made fiſh; the head is ſmall, with a ſharpiſh noſe; the body is

longiſh, and covered with fine bright thin ſcales; the colour on the back is blueiſh, on the other parts white, and it is very agreeably marked with irregular blackiſh or reddiſh-brown ſpots, even on the head, the covers of the gills, and all the way down on each ſide, from the lateral lines (which run from head to tail), to near the edge of the back, but very few are to be found on the belly ſides of the lines; and the tail is forked. The female may be diſtinguiſhed from the male by having a longer ſnout, and ſcales that are not quite ſo bright, with ſpots more of a darkiſh brown colour; the belly alſo is flatter; and the fleſh is more dry, not ſo red, nor of ſo good a flavour.

The Salmon is certainly a fiſh of prey, having teeth in his mouth, as other fiſh of prey have, and delighting in purſuing and ſeizing ſmall fiſh. It is very remarkable, however, that though a Salmon ſhall be taken in the very act of chaſing and catching the ſmall fry, yet, upon opening it, nothing of that nature will be found within

it; nor has it ever been discovered, by opening these fish, what they do subsist on.

The Salmon is a fish of passage, frequenting both the salt and fresh water. Some begin to leave the sea at the latter end of December, others in January and February, and continue running up the rivers more or less till near their spawning time, which is chiefly in the months of September and October; though some spawn before that time, and some after; for I have observed them to be big with roe in January in some countries, and in others in May. They begin to go out of season in July, which may be discovered by their scales appearing rougher and not so bright, and a little blackish about the head; in short, they can never be said to be in perfection when they begin to have roe; from which time they will gradually get worse and worse; and near their spawning time they will turn to a sort of dirty yellowish colour; their flesh will be soft, their beautiful spots vanish; and, after spawning,

ing, they will become black, disagreeable to look at, and appear not like fish of the same kind.

The *Porpus*, or *Sea-Hog*, is a great enemy to Salmon, and will often chase them for a considerable distance up the rivers.

The Salmon always breeds in rivers that have communications with the sea; but so high up as to have the water pure and free from any brackish tincture. They are very restless, and always endeavouring to get near the spring head; to effect which, they will leap over weirs and other obstructions, to the astonishment of the beholders; and thus, in the course of their journey, they fix on convenient places for their purpose, which are generally upon flats, where the bottom is gravel and sand, and the stream moderate, and not over deep; they also prefer the tails and sides of swift streams. By the time they have accommodated themselves, Nature supplies the males with an *excres-*

cence *, which grows out of the end of the lower jaw, and is a bony griſtle, ſomewhat reſembling a large hawk's beak; it is very ſtrong, and will grow to the length of about an inch and a half, or more. With this they go to work, and throw up the gravel and ſand in heaps a foot or more high, like mole-hills in a field, leaving hollow places between, wherein the females caſt their eggs; and the males, performing their natural office, go to work again, and cover all ſubſtantially over, to prevent other fiſh from deſtroying them, and to nouriſh and bring them to perfection. This done, they immediately run down the rivers to the ſea, which reſtores them

* This excreſcence, or tuſk, in the Salmon, is not a ſign of his being ſickly, nor a defence againſt fiſh that would devour the ſpawn (as has been aſſerted by many writers on the nature of this fiſh); but is given him by Nature purely for the purpoſe of making the beds for the females to ſpawn in; for all freſh-water fiſh are fearful of approaching the Salmon on account of his ſize and his being a fiſh of prey, as before obſerved, with teeth and ſtrength ſufficient to prevent any thing of that kind, without ſuch inſtrument.

to

to their ſtrength, and adds greatly to their growth and goodneſs; and here the male gradually loſes the *excreſcence* before deſcribed. But if any are ſtopped by flood-gates, weirs, or otherwiſe confined to freſh water, they will become lean; waſte away in their bodies; their heads will appear large, and of a different form from what they are when in health; and they will die by degrees, for want of the benefit of the ſalt water. The purging of the ſalt water, therefore, may as well be a reaſon why Salmon grow ſo faſt, as the want thereof the cauſe why they pine away and die ſo ſoon when confined to freſh water; for Nature directs them to the ſalt water to purge and cleanſe them, not only from their impurities after ſpawning, but from all others acquired by their manner of feeding all the ſummer in freſh water. It likewiſe hardens their fat and fleſh; and the freſh water, adding to their flavour, makes them more wholeſome.

I have often with delight ſeen theſe fiſh working their beds, obſerved them caſt-

ing their ſpawn, and admired the curious method in which they cover the beds up again, particularly in the river Shannon in Ireland.

In this manner their ſpawn is left; and therein it is nouriſhed and brought to perfection without any other care. There are ſeveral kinds of fiſh that will deſtroy the ſpawn when the Salmons have left their ſtations, by rooting it up wherever they are able; theſe are, particularly, the Eel, Roach, and Dace.

The Salmon has different names in different countries, according to its age; thoſe that are taken in the river *Ribble*, in Yorkſhire, are in the firſt year called *Smelts*, in the ſecond year *Sprods*, in the third *Morts*, in the fourth *Forktails*, in the fifth *Half-fiſh*, and in the ſixth *Salmon*. The ſmall Salmons, called *Morts* and *Peals* in moſt parts of England and Ireland, are named *Grils* in Scotland.

It is very remarkable, that ſuch erroneous accounts ſhould be given by many natural hiſtorians of the growth and weight

of

of these fish. They in general state, that a *Salmon* attains his full growth at the weight of forty pounds; whereas, both in Great Britain and Ireland, I have seen them from sixty to near seventy pounds weight, and have heard of larger. I have taken some by angling with an artificial fly and other baits, weighing upwards of forty pounds.

All fish, so long as they remain in health and escape misfortunes from the bite of fish of prey, (as well as other injuries to which they are frequently liable,) add something to their size and weight continually, breeding and growing; for all fish will begin to spawn when very young, and before they are half grown: hence we see small Salmons with roe as well as large ones. Such is my humble opinion however; and after having made it my study for upwards of forty years, I have the confidence to believe, that my knowledge of the nature of fresh-water fish is equal with the land sportsman's knowledge of the nature of hares, phea-

sants,

ſants, partridges, and other game; with which I am alſo not unacquainted.

There are in Ireland two beautiful falls of water (nearly perpendicular) which are called *Salmon-leaps;* one at *Ballough-Shannon;* the other, at *Leixlip*, about eight or nine miles from Dublin. The *Salmon*, when running from the ſea, leap up theſe *caſcades;* and it is hardly credible by thoſe who have not witneſſed it, that theſe fiſh ſhould be able to dart themſelves full twelve feet perpendicular out of the water; nay, allowing for the curvature, they muſt ſometimes leap ſixteen or eighteen feet. They do not, however, always ſucceed at the firſt leap; for ſometimes when they have almoſt reached the ſummit, the falling water daſhes them down again; at others, they fall head foremoſt or ſidelong upon the rocks, where they remain ſtunned for a few moments, and then ſtruggle into the water again. When they are ſo lucky as to reach the top, they ſwim out of ſight in a moment. They do not appear to ſpring from the ſurface of

of the water, nor can it be aſcertained from what depth they take their leap. It ſeems, however, to be performed by a forcible ſpring with their tails bent to their mouths; for their principal ſtrength is in their tails. They have ſometimes been ſhot,—at others caught with ſtrong barbed hooks fixed to a pole, at others again, by a kind of baſket faſtened to a long pole, and inſtances have been known of women catching them in their aprons,—during their leap. Sometimes one may ſee forty or perhaps more of theſe leaps in an hour. There is a *cataract* of this kind on the river *Tivy* in *Pembrokeſhire*, and another on the river *Wear*, not far from Durham, which is accounted very high; but that which I have ſpoken of in *Ireland* is much higher. I have often been ſurpriſed, while angling near mills, and other obſtructions that ſometimes prevent the *Salmon*'s free courſe up the rivers, to ſee a *Salmon* leap with violence againſt a mill-wheel when going round, a rock, or a wall, and rebound with ſuch force as to fall at my feet. Indeed,

ſometimes

ſometimes they are cut aſunder by mill-wheels at work.

It muſt be remarked, that *Salmon* is much more plentiful in the rivers of *Scotland* and *Ireland* than in thoſe of *England*; and that it is very cautious of venturing too far into the ſalt water, through dread of being devoured by the *Porpus* or other fiſh of prey; they therefore keep about the bays near the entrance of the rivers into the ſea; and upon their return from thence always enter the ſame rivers in which they had been ſpawned: which naturally accounts for ſome of them being better than others, according to the different quality and purity of the water in the rivers to which they reſort.

The Salmon's haunts.

The Salmon delights to prey and ſport in ſwift violent ſtreams and large rivers; and generally prefers the rough and upper parts of gentle ſtreams, and the tails of large ones, when on prey; eſpecially in ſuch

ſuch waters as have pebbly, gravelly, or ſandy bottoms, and ſometimes in weedy bottoms. When off their prey and ſport, they ſwim in the deep and broad parts, and generally in the middle of the river near the ground.

Their Feeding-times and Baits.

The Salmon's beſt feeding-times are from ſix till nine in the morning, and from three in the afternoon till ſun-ſet; generally in a clear water, when the wind blows hard againſt the ſtream. The beſt months to angle for them are March, April, May, and June; though they will take a fly very freely till the beginning of October, but they are then out of ſeaſon and unclean. They are to be fiſhed for with a large artificial fly (as hereafter deſcribed), ſmall Gravling or Laſt-ſprings, Minnows, and lob-worms; but the fly is the moſt killing of them all.

How to angle for them, &c.

Your rod ſhould be from ſixteen to eighteen feet in length, or longer, according to the ſize of the river you fiſh in; ſtrong and limber, with good wire rings from the top to within two feet of your hand, near to which your reel or winch muſt be fixed, with a good ſtrong running-line without knots, and the reel muſt be large enough to contain as much line as will croſs the river you fiſh in; for the Salmon is a ſtrong fiſh, will run very ſwiftly when firſt hooked, and will afterwards leap and plunge for ſome time. When he gives in a little, take the advantage of winding up your line, and when he makes another motion to be off (which he will many times) give him line again, and ſo continue playing him till you have gained all your line back again, except what is ſufficient to lead him to ſome ſhallow part, when, on his belly touching the bottom, he will turn on his ſide;

you

you may then lay down your rod, and take him out by the gills. They will ſometimes be ſo jaded, that they will not ſtir afterwards. You may often take them in the ſtill deep parts of rivers when the wind blows very ſtrong.

When you go out to angle for Salmon, you ſhould have a *gaff* (ſo called by Salmon-fiſhers), which is a good ſtick ſomewhat pliable, with a large barbed hook in one end; a ſtring is made faſt to one end alſo, and to ſlip off and on the other; ſo that you can carry it like a bow acroſs your ſhoulders, and be out of the way of throwing the line; thus, when you have played a fiſh, and brought him in under a bank, &c. you may ſlip the ſtring off, and, taking the gaff in your hand, put the hook into the noſe or the gills and lift him out; for which purpoſe a landing-net is too ſmall.

After you have fixed the reel to your rod, take the line (which is looped at the end), and run it through the rings till you bring it out at the top; then take your

your foot-length or gut-length (which muſt be looped at each end, and the knots well whipt alſo,) and loop it to the reel-line. This foot-length, for *Salmon*, muſt be made of three ſtrong ſilk-worm-guts twiſted together as hairs are done; three lengths will be long enough, as you fiſh with only one fly. The link to which your fly is fixed is done in the ſame way, and looped to the other end of your foot-length; ſo that if the fiſh at any time refuſe one fly, you may take it off with convenience, and try others, till you find which they are in the humour to take.

When you troul for them with Gravling or Minnow, your foot-length or links muſt be about three yards, with a ſwivel or two, as well to help your bait to play and turn freely, as to prevent your line from twiſting and breaking; with a large ſhot or two about a foot from the bait, to keep it under water when you play it; but you may either add to, or diminiſh the ſhot, according to the ſtrength of the ſtream you fiſh in, and your own judg-

ment; for this kind of angling is chiefly in the ſtreams. You muſt have a ſtiffer top to your rod than for fly-fiſhing; your hook very large, and long in the ſhank; with a very ſmall one fixed above, at nearly the diſtance of the length of the fiſh you bait with. The bait is to be drawn upon the hook like a worm, by putting it into the mouth and bending it round the bend of the hook till it comes out a little above the tail, ſo as to keep the tail bent a little; and then put the ſmall hook (which muſt be made blunt at the point) through the lips of the fiſh, to prevent its ſlipping into the bend of the large hook. Some uſe a leaded, and others a ſnap hook; but I much prefer the method I have here deſcribed.

When you are thus prepared, let your line out about the length of your rod, throw your bait acroſs the ſtream, and draw your line with a pretty briſk motion up it; which cauſes the bait to ſpin well, and provokes the large fiſh to take it. Some anglers ſtrike the fiſh as they ſeize

the bait; but I generally let them take it down for a time, which I think is the ſureſt method, though I can take them either way; but I would adviſe thoſe who uſe themſelves to the former method to be careful, when a fiſh runs at the bait, not to ſnatch it away through ſurpriſe before he takes it, as is often done even by tolerable anglers. This way of angling is beſt when the water is clearing off after a freſh, or when on the riſe, before it becomes too thick.

In lob-worm fiſhing for the Salmon, uſe the trouling tackle, by putting two of theſe worms well ſcoured on the hooks, the firſt of which muſt be drawn up quite above the top of the ſhank of the large hook, and the ſmall one run through the head; then take the other worm, and run that up the hook ſome way above the ſhank, and, drawing the other down, let them hang with their tails one above the other, keeping the point of the large hook from coming through the worm. This being done, lay your worms at the bottom

of

of a ſtream, and hold your rod ſtill, keeping out of ſight as much as poſſible; if in a ſhort time you have no bite, move your line gently up the ſtream, and your worms will play and ſhew themſelves by means of the ſwivels, and thus entice the fiſh to take them. If you have no ſucceſs this way after a few trials, you may almoſt depend upon it that there is no fiſh there, or elſe that he is not for the bait. This method is uſed when either the water is too thick for the fly, or when the day is bright, little or no wind ſtirring, and the water ſo clear that the fiſh can diſcover the deception of the artificial fly. I have often got up into a tree to look for them, and have ſometimes diſcovered one or more at the bottom, by the ſide or at the tail of a ſtream, and, deſcending, have crept carefully out of ſight, when, gently laying the worms at the bottom, about a yard from his head, I have ſoon felt his nibbling, and having hooked and taken him, have then gone and looked out for more. You can take them by no other

method of angling when the weather and water are in ſuch a ſtate, than by this way, and minnow fiſhing.

SALMON-FRY.

Called in ſome countries, *Salmon-Smelts*, *Samlets*, *Salmon-Pinks*, &c. Theſe ſmall Salmon are found in all rivers that Salmon frequent, and are the produce of the ſpawn left by them. They begin to appear in February, and in March and April are very numerous; but if a freſh happens to riſe in the rivers about April, they begin to travel, and will go lower down from where they were ſpawned every freſh, till they find the water ſaltiſh; and by the middle of the ſummer they will be grown as large as herrings, and ſome larger. As the cold weather comes on, they will venture to the mouths of the rivers, or a little farther, but are fearful of going too far into the ſalt water on their firſt viſit. The ſalt water adds greatly to their growth; and in the ſpring and ſummer following

following they return, and run up the rivers in great quantities, but go down to the ſea again before the winter (*i. e.* thoſe that eſcape being taken). Upon their ſecond return up the rivers, they will be grown amazingly, and are then called (according to the countries where they are taken) *Morts*, *Peals*, or *Grils*, as before obſerved; though ſome will call them *Salmon-Trouts*, for want of knowing better. In the beginning of the autumn following they will ſpawn for the firſt time. The latter end of the next February after they are ſpawned, they will begin to take a ſmall worm, when not much longer than one's finger; and in March and April, when the largeſt will be ſix or ſeven inches long, they are very eager in taking a ſmall red or black fly, if the water be clear; if thick, a ſmall worm; and afford great diverſion to a young angler; but it is really ſhameful to take them at that age, though they are very delicate eating.

They are to be angled for in and by the ſides of ſtreams whoſe bottoms are gravelly, ſandy, or ſtony.

THE SALMON-TROUT.

The real *Salmon-Trout* is a very handſome fiſh, being more richly adorned than the Salmon. It is longer, thicker, and rounder in proportion than a Salmon; is of a reddiſh caſt when in ſeaſon; has fine ſmall ſcales, beautifully intermixed on both ſides of the lateral lines with rich red and black ſpots, from head to tail; and the head, which is proportionally handſome with the body, is ſpotted over, as are likewiſe the covers of the gills; the fins are ſtrongly formed, and the tail is ſhorter and ſtronger than the Salmon's, but not ſo much forked. The fleſh is exceedingly rich and good, and in ſome countries eſteemed much better than that of any fiſh of the Salmon kind. The ſize is, generally, from two or three pounds to about five or ſix in weight; but ſome are larger.

Their

Their haunts, ſeaſon, and ſpawning-time.

Their haunts are partly the ſame as thoſe of the Salmon and large common Trout, and they are often taken when angling for either. They frequent the rivers pretty early in the ſpring; are in high ſeaſon from the middle of April till towards the latter end of July; and ſpawn chiefly in September; though in ſome countries they will ſpawn ſooner, and in others later.

How to angle for them, their baits, and biting-times.

Your rod ſhould be a ſmall-ſized Salmon-rod, or a ſtrong Trout one, not leſs than fourteen feet long; your reel-line ſtrong; the foot-length about three yards of fine twiſted ſilk-worm-gut, or ſome of the ſtrongeſt ſingle, with the knots well whipt; the hook No. 3 or 4; the baits, when the water is clear enough, ſhould be large gaudy flies; but, when it is much

coloured, well-ſcoured worms; with which angle in the ſtreams and near the ſides of them, having a running line, with a ſhot or two a foot or more from the hook.

This is a ſtrong fiſh in its element; and therefore when you hook one, give line enough, and otherwiſe manage him properly, and he will give you good play.

THE BULL-TROUT OR SCURF, THE BULGER, AND WHITE-TROUT, &c.

Theſe differ from the Salmon, as well as the Salmon-Trout; all of which are by ſome perſons taken for young Salmon; but this is a groſs error; for they are quite a different ſpecies; their tails are not ſo forked at the end; ſome are much browner, ſome blacker, and others much brighter; and the Bull-Trout has a ſhorter and thicker head, as well as body, than any other. Some of the former-named fiſh will weigh from a pound to three or four; and they are found in all rivers that have a communication with the ſalt-

water,

water, as well as in others that join thoſe, where there are no obſtructions to their running up.

They begin to run up the rivers in May, or at the beginning of June, and are moſt plentiful in September and October; but in theſe months they are not ſo good as in the former ones, it being the ſeaſon when the greateſt part of them ſpawn. The fleſh is at no time ſo good as that of a Salmon, being ſomething drier.

The *White-Trout*, as it is generally called in England and Ireland, is termed *Whitling* in Scotland, and *Sewen* or *Souen* in Wales. They are moſt excellent fiſh; particularly thoſe taken in the *Toway* in *South Wales*, *as remarked in treating of that river*. They run about the ſize of large Mackerel, are quite handſome and very bright, and are to be taken with the black and grouſe hackles hereafter deſcribed in the liſt of flies.

Their haunts are in ſmart, rough, ſtony ſtreams, and at the ſides and tails of them, where it is gravelly; and ſometimes in ſmooth

ſmooth gliding currents of the ſame nature. They are ſtrong in the water, and afford great ſport when hooked; for ſome of them will ſpring with the line a yard or two out of the water, and that ſeveral times before you can properly land them.

The former have the ſame haunts as the Salmon-Trout, and are ſometimes found in gentle purling ſhallow ſtreams, and thoſe that run between and over rocks or ſtones, and about weirs that are made acroſs rivers.

Your tackle and baits are the ſame as for the Salmon-Trout.

THE GRAVLING, LAST-SPRING, SHEDDER, GRAVEL-LAST-SPRING, OR SAMPSON;

(So called in different countries) is found in all rivers which the Salmon and the Trout juſt deſcribed frequent. They are exceedingly plentiful in many rivers of England, Scotland, and Ireland, from the beginning of April to the latter end of November; and are much like the Salmon-

Salmon-Fry, only ſome of them are of a darker colour, and have blackiſh marks down the middle of each ſide; but there are various ſorts and ſizes of them to be found towards the latter end of the year, differently marked.

Some are of opinion, that they are the ſpawn of the ſick Salmon which cannot get out from the freſh waters to the ſea, and that being thus the offſpring of a weak ſeed is the reaſon of their diminutive ſize and inability to breed again; but this is obviouſly wrong, becauſe the Salmon never ſpawns but when in perfect health. Another opinion is, that they are a ſpecies of themſelves, becauſe a little milky matter, like male ſpawn, is found in ſome of them in the month of September, but never any female ſpawn; for which reaſon, I take this to be an error alſo.

Now, in my opinion, they are really and abſolutely the ſpawn of the *Salmon-Trout*, *Bull-Trout* or *Scurf*, *Bulger*, *White-Trout* or *Sewen*, &c.; and that they are the productions of all theſe kinds of fiſh,

fish, may be inferred, as we find them differ in size and make. The kind of milky matter spoken of, may be a forwardness of nature in some of the males, before the females are capable of producing any spawn. But even supposing that they do actually breed at this age, it would not affect my argument; for fish begin to breed when very small; the Roach and Dace, for instance, will be full roed when no longer than one's finger, and so go on breeding and growing some little, as long as they exist. But I take these *Gravlings*, *&c.* to be a year old at the time spoken of, the spawn of the last season; and that they go gradually down the rivers before the next winter, according to their strength, till they find the water a little brackish, which adds much to their growth, and enables them to return the next summer to the rivers in various sizes, according to their kind, as we may observe when any quantity are taken; and this season I find to be their first time of spawning, being then full of roe of both kinds;

kinds; and ſo in time they come to be named as above mentioned; for they do not grow ſo faſt in proportion as the Salmon. If this be not the caſe, what becomes of the ſpawn of theſe Trouts, which always breed in rivers like the Salmon? Does it produce nothing? I anſwer, that it produces theſe very fiſh, and no other; and that on their reaching the brackiſh water, the marks down each ſide gradually diſappear, and they become adorned, ſome with beautiful red ſpots, ſome with brown, black, and others with whitiſh ſpots, according to their kind. Some will be darker than the Salmon, and ſome as bright as ſilver.

The baits and method of angling for the Gravling are the ſame as for the Salmon-Fry.

THE MULLET

Is a fiſh of paſſage, viſiting our rivers from the ſalt water. It is ſomething like a *Dace* in ſhape, but much thicker; has

a ſharp noſe; the mouth is without teeth, but the tongue is a little rough, and there are two rough bones on each ſide the palate, and one at the corner of the mouth, beſet with prickles; the head is flattiſh, with ſcales on the covers of the gills and head as far as the noſtrils, and large ones on the body; the back is of a blueiſh brown, having a fin radiated with five long ſpines, and the belly white; the lateral lines are variegated alternately with black and white. The largeſt of them are about half a yard long, and in great eſteem. In the ſummer time they run up with every tide, and return back when the water ebbs, never ſtopping in the rivers; and they are in ſeaſon from May to September. Angle for them as the tide comes in, but before it gets too thick, with an artificial fly, the ſame as for *Trout*, and at all times, if the water be in any degree clear enough; when otherwiſe, bait with a ſmall red worm, or with gentles. Have ſtrong tackle, and fiſh within two feet of the bottom. The

Mullet

Mullet is a ſtrong fiſh in his element; when you hook him, therefore, give him proper play.

THE SMELT

Derives its name, according to ſome, from having a ſmell like a violet, or, as others ſay, like a cucumber; but I think it between both, and partaking partly of that of new hay. The length of a large one is from eight to ten inches, and two or three inches broad when big with roe. The largeſt I ever ſaw were ſome that I took out of the rivers in Scotland, particularly the *Forth*, near Stirling. The lower jaw is a little more prominent than the upper, and both are furniſhed with ſmall teeth, beſide ſome on the tongue. The back part of the head is tranſparent. The back is of a duſky colour; but the belly and ſides ſhine like ſilver; and, upon cloſe examination, there may be ſeen ſmall black ſpots on the head and back. The fleſh is ſoft, tender, and of a delicate taſte, for

for which it is much eſteemed. Smelts viſit the rivers with the tide; and in the ſpring, and beginning of ſummer, will run much farther up than in the decline of the year. They are alſo to be found in the inlets of the ſea, and in the docks that are opened for the reception of ſhips. Angle for them about mid-water with fine tackle, a line that is called a paternoſter, having five or ſix ſmall hooks, about five or ſix inches above each other, baited with different ſorts of baits. The beſt of all are very ſmall freſh *ſhrimps*, (not boiled,) or part of a boiled one with the head and huſk taken away; next to theſe are gentles; red paſte; paſte made up of boiled ſhrimps, fine white bread, and a little honey; cads, and blood-worms; and they will ſometimes take a bit of one of their own ſpecies. Throw in now and then ſome crumbs of bread ſteeped in water, to keep them together. It is beſt angling when the tide runs up.

THE

THE BARBEL

Is ſaid to be ſo called on account of its having a beard, or barb, under the chops; it is a large leather-mouthed fiſh, of a fine caſt and handſome ſhape, with ſmall ſcales placed in a moſt exact manner; but it is very coarſe and bad eating, and the roe is ſaid to act as a violent *cathartic* and *emetic*, though I never made the experiment. In ſhort, they are not worth noticing, except for the ſport they afford to the angler, which is very great.

They begin to run up the rivers in March; and in April, when they begin to ſpawn, keep together in companies, making holes in the gravel wherein they caſt their ſpawn. If there be any difference in the taſte of their fleſh, they are moſt in ſeaſon the latter end of ſummer. They frequent weedy, gravelly, riſing grounds, and deep places; and in the ſummer the ſtrongeſt currents of water, under bridges, near weirs, among piles

hollow places, and under mossy weeds, &c. &c. Before the weather gets too cold, they retire down the rivers to the deep brackish water, where they continue till the spring, when they run up again; though some will have it, that they continue up the rivers, and hide themselves all the winter in the weeds and mud in deep water; but this is a wrong notion; for I never heard of fishermen taking them with nets at that season of the year, which they certainly would do, as well as other fish, if they were then in the water; nor did I ever know a *Barbel* to be found in any river or brook that had not a communication with the sea.

Angle for them with strong tackle, with a *wheel* or *winch* as before described; your bottom link should be three lengths of gut twisted together, the hook from No. 4 to No. 5 or 6; a proper number of shot about half a foot from it, and a cork or swan-quill float to carry the bait about half an inch from the ground, or nearer. Do not bait the place with *greaves*,

as

as ſome do, nor with any other bait but what is inferior to that you fiſh with; as malt grains, bran, blood, parts of lob-worms, and clay, all worked up together, and two or three ſmall balls of it thrown into your hole. This repeat now and then, but do not bait it too much (though ſome fooliſhly ſay you cannot); for if you do, they will glut themſelves too much to be eager for your hook-baits; the beſt of which are, Salmon's roe boiled a little; *greaves* (which are the remains of tallow-chandlers' fat, after having been melted and well preſſed; and to prepare them for uſe, break ſome into a veſſel of cold water, and put them over a gentle fire, till they are near boiling, which will turn them almoſt white, and make them fine and ſoft; then fiſh with the beſt and whiteſt part of it), gentles, lob-worms, and cheeſe. Be careful that your baits be well ſcoured, ſweet, and clean, or you will ſpoil your ſport. This method of angling for them with a float is chiefly proper in deep gently-running water; but

when you fish in ſtreams, have a ſmall bullet with a hole through it on your line, and a ſhot about a foot from the hook to prevent its ſlipping down to the hook; by theſe means the bullet will lie on the ground, and the ſtream will cauſe your bait to play, and ſhow itſelf. You ſhould have the bottom link of fine gimp for this method. When you have a bite, you may perceive the line or top of the rod to move, and when you have the rod in your hand, you can feel him; give proper time, and then ſtrike; if you hook him, be ſure to give him play, and manage him properly, or he will break both rod and line; for he will, upon being hooked, run with his head violently towards any covert hole or bank, and will often ſtrike with his tail at the line to break it. Their principal biting months are from the beginning of May till the latter end of Auguſt, from about ſun-riſe to ten o'clock in the morning, and from four in the afternoon to ſun-ſet.

THE FLOUNDER

Is a fish that is found in all rivers which have communication with the sea, and is too well known to require description, except as differing from the small *Plaice*, which some people are at a loss to distinguish from the *Flounder;* the latter, however, is not so broad or flat, but is thicker and more oval; the fins reddish; the belly of a more clear white; the flesh considerably more firm and good; and the large ones are adorned with small red spots. In coming from the salt water, they run a considerable way up the rivers; numbers of them that are not taken, lose themselves, and, not finding their way back again, continue and breed in the rivers; and these grow to be the largest. They will likewise live and breed in ponds, if taken and put in without hurt. Angle for them with a strong line, three, four, or five hairs at bottom, or a very strong gut, and not with a single-hair line, as some advise, who know little, if any thing;

of the method of angling for these fish; for in some rivers they are very large, weighing a pound or more, and when hooked struggle much and afford great sport. In angling for these you may sometimes take *Trout*, *Chub*, *Barbel*, *Eel*, and other fish. The only baits that I would recommend are, *Brandling-worms well scoured*, and those that are taken from *rotten tan*. Lie on the ground when you angle in the streams with a bullet, as before mentioned for *Barbel;* and when in deep still water, with a shot or two on the line. You may use two or three rods when you fish purposely for them, laying them in such order as will enable you easily to discern when they bite, by the motion of the line or top of the rod. The best places to angle for them in, are, by the sides and at the tails of deep streams, where the bottom consists of gravel, fine sand, or loam, or in deep still places of the same quality near the banks; and by throwing in a ground-bait of clay and broken worms, and observing the directions above laid down,

you

you may take in ſome rivers a dozen or more at a ſtanding, when the water is thickened by freſh or tide; for they will bite all day, in the courſe of which you may often take a conſiderable quantity, though it has been ignorantly aſſerted by ſome, that they are ſeldom or ever taken with a rod and line.

THE EEL,

Though a fiſh of paſſage, is to be found in almoſt all waters that have any communication with the ſea.—There are ſeveral ſorts of them. The *Silver Eel* has a dark brown back, and white belly; with a head ſmall and ſharpiſh. The *Green Eel* has a broad flat head, and is much flatter made towards the tail than the other, having the back of a dark green colour, and the belly of a whitiſh green. The *Black Eel* has a larger head than the two former, a black back, and yellow belly; and the fleſh is reckoned unwholeſome, particularly of thoſe taken out of mud in ſtanding waters.

The Eels begin to run up the rivers in April, if the weather be warm; and ſuch of them as can will return to the ſalt water ſoon in the autumn following, where they bring forth their young, which are thoſe ſmall *Eels*, or *Elvers*, that run up the rivers near the ſurface of the water in ſuch ſurpriſing quantities when the weather becomes warm.

That Eels are of the *viviparous kind* is certain; for I do not believe that any one will venture to ſay, that he ever found any thing like roe in them; but I can aſſert, with truth, that for the purpoſe of ſatisfying myſelf on this head, I have cut open numbers of *Eels*, and have found within many of them a ſmall ſoft whitiſh ſubſtance knotted together very curiouſly; which, upon cloſe examination, when ſeparated I found to be perfect young *Eels* capable of moving, though ſome of them were no thicker than a fine thread, and upon their being put into water I have ſeen them ſwim about. This diſcovery always happened in the latter end of ſummer, or

beginning

beginning of autumn; which convinces me, that they go down to the ſea for the purpoſe above ſtated; and that thoſe which ſtay behind, (for there are ſome to be found in the rivers at almoſt all times,) produce their young the ſame way; as do alſo thoſe which by ſummer floods have been carried out of the rivers into ponds, rivulets, ditches, (where there is any ſpring,) and other waters, wherever they are, except thoſe that are barren. Theſe, when the winter comes on, retire into deep water, under hollow banks, and other places where there is a ſufficient quantity of mud for them to lurk in, and keep themſelves warm, till the ſpring and mild weather invites them abroad again. Natural hiſtorians tell us, that all fiſhes that have no ſcales bring forth their young alive; and thoſe that have, caſt their ſpawn; but this is a miſtake; witneſs the little *Minnow*, *Loach*, and *others*, which have no ſcales, yet ſpawn in the ſame manner as thoſe that have; which makes me conclude, that theſe authors mean

mean many ſea-fiſh, but at the ſame time have particularly miſtaken the nature of the *Eel!* I cannot help commenting a little farther on this ſubject. There are not wanting perſons who aſſert, that *Eels* are bred from ſome corrupted matter, even from that of their own ſpecies, by glutinous drops of dew falling on banks near waters, which are by the heat of the ſun turned into *Eels!!* And, wonderful to relate, an author on this head, intending to make others as wiſe as *himſelf, and all the world conjurers*, gives inſtructions for producing them by art, viz. "Cut up two turfs covered with May-dew, and lay one on the other, the graſſy ſide inwards, and thus expoſe them to the heat of the ſun: in a few hours there will ſpring from them an infinite quantity of *Eels!!!*" Many perſons will alſo tell you, that where horſes run near water, and caſt their hairs therein, and on the ſides of the banks, they will certainly produce *Eels!!!*

The *Eel's haunts* are chiefly among weeds, under ſtumps of trees, roots, and

ſtones, in holes in the banks and bottom, and about bridges, weirs, mills, deep ſtreams, and muddy places; where they moſtly keep in the day-time, with only their heads out watching for prey, except when the water is rendered thick by rains or otherwiſe; for then they come out boldly, and will bite eagerly. They are beſt in ſeaſon in May, June, and July. Angle for them on the ground, with two, three, or more rods (if you find you can attend them), uſing the ſame ground-bait as for the *Barbel;* but letting your hook-baits be *well-ſcoured lob-worms, ſmall Minnows, Loaches, Bull-heads, and waſp-maggots*, which are the beſt baits for them, and with which you may often have good ſport when the water is high and thick, as above obſerved; but they take beſt in the night, when the weather is warm and the night dark; then, if you are diſpoſed for the ſport, fiſh upon the ſhallows where there is a current, or by the ſide or tail of a ſtream with a ſandy gravelly bottom, holding the rod in your hand, and letting the

the bait be on the ground, which bait may either of the above mentioned, except the young waſp. When they bite, you will feel them tug ſharply; but give a little time, and you cannot fail of having excellent ſport from the time the night comes on till the day breaks, which inſtantly ſtops it, for they directly flee to their hiding-places. You may alſo take them by night-lines, with the ſame baits. There is a method of taking them at any time of day when the water is clear and low; this is called *ſniggling*, and is performed by having a ſmall ſtick, no thicker than a ſtrongiſh top-rod, with a kind of elbow at one end, and ſtraight at the other, about a yard long, with a ſmall cleft in each end, and a large ſtrong needle well whipt to a line of ſmall good whip-cord, or catgut, from the eye down to the middle; when you bait, run the head of the needle quite up into the head of a lob-worm, letting the point come out about the middle; then put the point of the needle into the cleft at either end of

the ſtick, according to convenience, and taking both ſtick and line together in one hand, with ſome of the line wrapped round the hand, put the bait gently into holes, under hollow walls, ſtones, and other places where you think they hide themſelves; if there be any Eel there, he will take it, and draw the worm and the needle out of the cleft; now take away the ſtick gently (having ſlackened the line) and give time, that he may ſwallow the bait; then give a gentle ſnatch, and the needle will ſtick acroſs his throat; let him tire himſelf with tugging, before you attempt to pull him out; for he lies infolded in his den, and will faſten his tail round any thing that he can for his defence; ſo that violence will ſometimes pull away his head, particularly if he be large; get him out therefore by gentle means. The largeſt Eels are generally taken about the hollow ſtone-work of old bridges, (the angler being in a boat,) and afford great diverſion.

Another

Another method of taking them is, by what is called *bobbing;* this is done by taking a quantity of chicken's guts, or ſcoured lob-worms; having a long needle, with two or three lengths of worſted ſlightly twiſted together, put the needle lengthways through them, and draw them down on the worſted till you have a yard or two thus prepared; then tie them up in links, faſten them to about two yards of good packthread, and make a knot on it about eight inches from the worms; and, ſlipping a piece of lead with a hole in it down the line to the knot, from about a quarter to three quarters of a pound weight, according to the current you fiſh in, faſten the line to a manageable pole, and let the lead lie on the bottom in thick muddy water, where the tide comes up ſtrong; or near the mouth of ſome river. When they come to nibble at your bait, you can feel them; but give them ſome little time before you pull up, which muſt be gently, till they get near the ſurface of the water, then

then hoiſt them out quickly; the worſted ſticking in their teeth prevents them from getting looſe till you ſlacken the line by throwing them on the ground, or into a boat (which is preferable to being on ſhore); and as ſoon as they are diſentangled, throw in again, and ſo continue putting in and taking up, and you will frequently get great quantities, eſpecially of *Grigs*. *Eels* are alſo to be ſnared by the ſame method as that hereafter deſcribed for ſnaring *Pike*.

All thoſe of which I have hitherto been treating are fiſhes of paſſage.

The following are fiſhes that do not viſit the ſalt-water:

THE TROUT

Is more generally eſteemed than any other freſh-water fiſh. The ſhape of *Trouts* in general is rather long than broad, like the Salmon; but in ſeveral rivers of Scotland and Ireland they grow much thicker than in our rivers in England,

land, though not near so long in proportion to their thickness; so that a *Trout* of this kind, that is from eighteen to about twenty-two inches in length, will often weigh from three to four or five pounds.

The *Trout* is a fish of prey, has a short roundish head, blunt nose, wide mouth filled with teeth, not only in the jaws, but on the palate and tongue also. It has a broad tail, small scales, and is sprinkled all over the body and covers of the gills, when in season, with small beautiful red and black spots.

There are several sorts of Trouts, which differ in their size, shape, and colour; but the best are either red or yellow; the females have a smaller head and deeper body than the males, and are of a superior flavour. There is also a sort of small Trout in many of the lesser rivers, that never grow large, but are very great breeders.

Their

Their ſpawning-time, with obſervations.

Trouts begin to ſpawn in October in ſome rivers, and in others in November, which I take to be the chief month. Towards the latter end of September they leave the deep water to which they had retired during the latter part of the hot ſeaſon, and make their way up the rivers, ſeeking out proper places for the purpoſe of ſpawning. They always fix upon ſome gravelly bottom, or where gravel and ſand are mixed among ſtones towards the tail and ſides of a ſtream, and in lakes, &c. whoſe bottoms are gravel among weeds, where they make themſelves beds, and therein depoſit their ſpawn; at which time they become black about the head and body. and are diſagreeably ſoft and unwholeſome. In fact, they are never good when big with roe, which is contrary to the nature of moſt other fiſh. After they have ſpawned, they become lean and feeble; their bodies ſeem waſted; and thoſe beautiful ſpots which before adorned them are not perceptible; their

their heads appear ſwelled, and their eyes duſk. In this ſtate they retire to the deep ſtill parts of the water, and continue there ſick, as is ſuppoſed, all the winter, breeding a kind of worm which keeps them poor, till the ſeaſon comes on to refreſh and reſtore them to their former vigour. There are to be found in all Trout rivers ſome female Trouts that are barren, and theſe continue good all the winter.

Their haunts.

In February, or as ſoon as the weather becomes a little warm and open, the Trouts begin to leave their winter quarters in the deeps, and approach the ſhallows and tails of ſtreams, where they ſcour, cleanſe, and reſtore themſelves to health, which prepares them for their ſummer's diverſion. As they acquire ſtrength, they advance ſtill higher up the rivers, till they fix upon their ſummer's habitation; for which they generally chooſe rocky, ſtony, and gravelly bottoms; whirlpools, and holes into which ſwift ſtreams, ſharps, and ſhallows,

ſhallows fall; under hollow banks, roots of trees, boughs and buſhes, and in places that are ſhaded; behind great ſtones and banks, that ſtand above or jet out into the water, or where there is an eddy or whirling back of a ſtream; and in ſmall rivers they frequently lie under ſedges and weeds, eſpecially in the beginning of the year, before they recover their perfect ſtrength; but when they are in their prime, they frequent the ſwifteſt ſtreams, feeding in the ſides and deepeſt parts of them, and are often found at the upper end of mill-pools, at locks, flood-gates, and weirs. They alſo take their ſtations under bridges, or between two ſtreams that run from under the arches of bridges, and in the returns of ſtreams, where the water ſeems to boil and twirl about in deep places; but at the decline of ſummer they lie at the tails of ſtreams, and in the deep water.

The *angler*, by being thus directed to their moſt frequented haunts, may purſue his ſport with much ſucceſs, while thoſe

who are unacquainted with these circumstances must ever fail in their attempts.

Their seasons; how to angle for them; their baits, and biting-times.

Trouts may be said to be in season from the middle of February to Michaelmas, though some are tolerably good even to the middle of October; and I am of opinion, that they are fattest and best from about the middle of August to the middle of September, because at that season they feed mostly upon young fry, from the spawn of many different sorts of fish, which makes them firm and fine flavoured. Some, however, contend, that their prime season is May, which I cannot be brought to agree with, because in that month and June they glut themselves with such quantities of flies that frequent the water, as cause them to be more thin and flabby than they are either at the latter end of April or at the time above mentioned.

Your

Your rod for Trout-fiſhing ſhould be about fourteen feet in length; the bottom part made of well-ſeaſoned aſh or hazle, large enough towards the but-end for the winch or reel to faſten on properly; the middle part, ſeaſoned yew or hickary; the top of the ſame, well ſpliced, with about half a foot of good round whalebone to fit nicely, properly tapered to the end, and ringed neatly, as before obſerved of the Salmon-rod; and when put together it muſt be very regularly taper from bottom to top, with a good ſpring, and pliable almoſt to the hand, for fly-fiſhing; but you ſhould have another top, much ſtiffer, to put on for minnow and worm-fiſhing. The but-end of your rod ſhould be bored ſo as to be adapted to hold either top, (according as you change them,) with a ſcrew or cap at the end to keep it from dropping out. For fly-fiſhing only, your rod ſhould be but of two parts, without ferrils, and the lower part longer than the upper part, with the ſmall end of the former and the large end of the

latter cut nicely to fit, as for splicing, but pretty long; it may be tied together by the water-side, with a proper-sized twisted and waxed hempen thread, such as shoe-makers use; and when you have left off fishing you should untie the rod, and wrap the string round both parts together, for the more conveniently carrying it home. This sort of rod is by far the best, both for throwing out the line with more ease and exactness, and for easing it in playing the fish when hooked; and it will have a better spring, if properly made, than the other sort of rods.

In February, if the weather be open and mild, Trouts will take a well-scoured red or dunghill worm, a longish white one found in the soil of turnip-fields, lob-worms, &c.; and if the water be clear, and the day fine, you may have sport with the fly; but the best months for them are, March, April, and May. In March and April angle for them with the worm in the forenoon, and with a fly or minnow the rest of the day, according to

the ſtate of the water; in the ſwifteſt ſtreams and ſtrongeſt parts of the river, provided the day be warm and bright, and in the deeps morning and evening, early and late; but if the water be much coloured, or very thick, angle in the ſhallows, where it is gravelly, near to the ſides and tails of ſtreams, with a worm only, to run on the bottom with one large ſhot a foot at leaſt from the bait. If there be a ſmall freſh in the water, or it is clearing off, being of a dark or brownifh colour, uſe the worm firſt, (which ſhould be a well-ſcoured brandling, with a fine hook, a ſhortiſh line without a ſhot, caſt in as a fly at the head of the ſtreams, and moved gently towards you, ſtill letting it go down with the current, ſo as to keep it a little under water); then the minnow; and, as the water gets clearer, the artificial flies, of which there is a moſt particular account given in the Third Part of this Book. When the water is clear and low in warm weather, you may uſe the beetle, wood-fly, blue-bottle, cadbate,

palmer, cabbage-grub, cowdung-bob, &c. &c. either at top, or within the water. Other large fish, as well as Trouts, will take all these baits freely, that is, sometimes one sort and sometimes another, just as they are in the humour, and the weather and water suit.

There is another excellent method of catching Trouts and several other sorts of fish; which is, by taking a fine bittern's feather, and lapping it round the hook like a hackle, near the top of the shank, and putting a palmer-worm, (of that sort which you judge best,) or a cadbate in its season, on the bend of the hook; with which fish with a short line, over banks, bushes, and such places as are proper for the sport. In some countries this is called *bobbing*.

You may also, in warm weather, when the water is in order, use the worm, minnow, or cadbate in the forenoon; and flies, either artificial or natural, all the rest of the day; not forgetting to use the evening flies, beginning towards sun-set; and for night-fishing, use the artificial moth-

moth-flies, the minnow, or a ſmall-fry.

N. B. Your tackle for minnow-fiſhing for Trouts ſhould be of the ſame ſort as that before mentioned for Salmon, with this difference only, that it muſt be much finer, with a good ſtout ſingle ſilk-worm-gut at bottom, and the hook either No. 2, 3, or 4, according as the fiſh run for ſize where you angle.

THE GRAYLING

(Termed in Yorkſhire, and ſome other places, *Umber*) has a longiſh and more flat body than that of a *Trout*. In length it ſeldom exceeds eighteen or twenty inches; its back is of a duſky green inclining to blue; and the ſides are gray, (from which it has its name of *Grayling*,) though they ſeem to glitter with ſpangles of gold, and are marked with black ſpots irregularly placed; the lateral line, common to all fiſh, is nearer the back than the belly; the top of the back fin is reddiſh,

reddish, but the lower part is of a blueish purple (as are the fins of the belly) spotted with black; it has a small head, with protuberant eyes, whose irides are of a silver colour, speckled with dusky yellow; the mouth is of a middle size, with the upper jaw longer than the lower; it cannot be said to have teeth, but the lips are rough like a fine file; and when in its prime season, the head and covers of the gills are blackish; it is hog-backed; and when it swims at the bottom of the water, its nose and belly touch the ground together, which makes me think that Graylings feed mostly at the bottom.

The flesh is in great esteem; and, in my opinion, much better than that of the *Trout*.

Their season, spawning-time, and haunts.

Graylings are good and palatable all the year; but their chief season is from the beginning of September to January. They spawn in April and the beginning of

of May, at which time they lie near the sides and at the tails of sharp streams, and are very apt to rise at the artificial fly. Their haunts, in general, are nearly the same as those of the Trout. They lurk close all the winter, and in April begin to be very active; for they are brisk sprightly fishes in their element, and swim very swiftly.

How to angle for them; their baits, and biting-times.

When the water is clear enough, angle for them with *flies*, in the season; when otherwise, with the *cadbate*, *gentle or maggot*, *or a well-scoured worm*, *&c.*; for they are taken with the same baits, and after the same manner, as the Trout, except by trouling with the minnow, &c. which they never take. They will feed on, and delight themselves with, all other little insects, as well as the cadbate; and gather husks, which are composed of fine gravel and sand, to preserve them from the coldness of the water. I have often seen

ſeen numbers of them working up the gravel, and catching at every thing of this kind.

When you fiſh at the bottom, let the bait or ſhot drag upon the ground, for they will rather take it there than aſcend; therefore when you angle particularly for them this way, uſe a running-line, though ſome prefer a cork float. Gentles, in my opinion, are the beſt bait for bottom-fiſhing.

Graylings are very ſportive at the fly during the ſpring and ſummer; being much more ſimple, and therefore bolder than the Trout, they will riſe two or three times at your fly, if you miſs them; but are dead-hearted and cowardly ſoon after they are hooked. The mouth is ſo very tender on each ſide, that they will often break their hold, ſo that you muſt uſe them gently when ſtruck, and take care to have a fine hook, about No. 5 or 6.

They will take all day in cooliſh cloudy days; but the beſt time is from about

eight

eight in the morning to twelve, and from four in the afternoon to a little after ſunſet, in ſpring and ſummer; and from September to January in the middle of the day. In angling for Graylings, you will generally take *Trouts* alſo; for when they are in the ſame water, they generally keep company together, as do *Roach* and *Dace*.

THE PIKE, LUCE, OR JACK,

Has a long and roundiſh body, covered with ſmall ſcales of a whitiſh colour, and ſprinkled on each ſide with yellowiſh ſpots (the young ones partake more of a greeniſh tint); the upper and lower jaws are both full of teeth, beſide which it has three rows of teeth upon the tongue. The Pike is the tyrant of freſh-water fiſh, and is accounted a longer liver than any other, except the Carp. The chief articles of his ſuſtenance are frogs and fiſh, even thoſe of his own ſpecies. The very large ones are ſo voracious, that they have

have been known to ſnap at the limbs of a boy when ſwimming, and at a dog or other animal; they will alſo draw down young geeſe, ducks, and other water-fowl under water, and devour them. In ſhort, this fiſh may be called the freſh-water ſhark. It is ſuppoſed that no other fiſh will keep company with the Pike, as he is always obſerved to ſwim alone, and is the moſt bold and daring of all freſh-water fiſh, knowing no other enjoyments, as may be conjectured, than prey and reſt.

Pikes grow to a very large ſize. I have ſeen them in England more than thirty pounds weight; and have been informed, that there was one taken out of the river *Shannon* in *Ireland* that weighed between ſixty and ſeventy pounds; but I never caught one that was more than eighteen pounds.

Their ſpawning-time, and ſeaſon.

They begin ſpawning the latter end of February, and continue till near the middle

middle of March, at which time they go out of the rivers into ſome creek or ditch where there may be a ſufficient ſupply of water; in ponds, they ſeek the neck or ſhallow parts of the water, among weeds; and while the ſpawner is caſting her eggs, the milter hovers over her, but does not touch her. The beſt of theſe fiſh are thoſe that breed in rivers, and the females are preferable to the males. They are in ſeaſon from the beginning of May till near their ſpawning-time.

How to angle for them, &c.

Your rod muſt be ſtrong, ſuch as you troul with for Salmon; with a reel or winch placed on the but-end of it, ſufficient to hold about thirty yards of ſtrong line; at the end of which let there be a ſwivel, to faſten on your armed wire or gimp.

There are many ways of taking the Pike. The firſt that I ſhall deſcribe, I call *dipping*, and it is performed as follows: Let your hook be a large proper-

ſized

ſized gorge-hook, very ſlightly leaded on the ſhank; bait it, by putting the wire or gimp in at the mouth of a ſmalliſh fiſh, ſuch as a *Salmon-Fry*, *Gravling*, *Roach*, *Dace*, *Gudgeon*, *&c.* and, bringing it out as near the tail as poſſible, (for which purpoſe, when you uſe gimp, you ſhould have a braſs needle about ſeven or eight inches long, put the loop of the gimp on the ſmall curve or eye of the needle, thruſt it into the mouth of the fiſh, and bring it out as above obſerved); draw it on for the hook to be out, cloſe in one corner of its mouth, which muſt then be ſewed up, and the tail tied up to the wire or gimp very neatly with a bit of white thread, which is not ſo apt to untie as ſilk; cut away the back fin, and then loop on to your ſwivel. When you begin to angle, let out your line to a length convenient, and fiſh where the water is not very deep, but overſpread with docks and weeds except in ſome parts where you have room to get in your bait. The fiſh, hanging with his head downwards, will, when played with

with a gentle motion, ſhoot and play about among the weeds very naturally; and the Pike will be eager in taking it this way, even from the ſurface of the water. When a Pike takes your bait, ſlacken your line, and let him take it down, and run with it if he has room; in a ſhort time afterwards, you may perceive the line to ſhake, which is a good hint to ſtrike; or elſe give him time to gorge it, according as your judgment may direct. When you hook one, manage him gently, winding up your line by degrees. When it is proper to land him, bring him quietly through the weeds; with his noſe above them; and if you have not a landing net, be careful how you take him out of the water, for his bite is very ſharp. The beſt way is to take him with your thumb and finger in his eyes.

N. B. Always let your baits be freſh.

Another way,

Which is very pleaſant, is called *trolling* for *Pike*, but *trouling* for *Salmon* and *Trout*, becauſe the motion is much quicker.

Your rod and line muſt be the ſame as before; the hook either double or ſingle; the double hook is made of two large ones, with long ſhanks, tied together nearly back to back, then whipt to a piece of proper braſs wire about four inches long; and to the wire, have half a yard of gimp, with a ſmall loop at top; the hook muſt be leaded two inches up the wire, the piece of lead running ſmall to the upper end, and a quarter of an inch ſquare at the lower end. The ſingle hook is completed the ſame way, obſerving to chooſe one with a long ſhank. They are both baited the ſame way, as before directed, only cutting away one of the fins at the gills of your bait, and another at the vent on the contrary ſide, and keeping the points of the double hook towards its eyes, when it is drawn cloſe to his mouth. Angle for them this way in deep ſtrong water, near to weeds, bullruſhes, water-docks, hollow banks, ſtumps of trees, &c. Caſt your bait acroſs the water, and up and down in ſuch places as you think proper; and keep it in conſtant motion, by ſometimes letting it ſink

a con-

a considerable depth, and at other times raising it gradually. You need not make more than two or three trials in a place; for if a Pike be there, he will seize the bait within that time, if he intends taking it at all. When he takes the bait, give him line, and he will run to his hold to swallow it; in a short time afterwards, you may see the line shake (as before observed); if that be not the case, let him be about five minutes from the time that he first made off; then strike, and manage him with discretion: he is your own. But, if after he has run off with the bait, he makes scarcely any stay with it at his hold, but goes off with it again, you should not strike him till he has rested a second time allowing him still about five minutes; but if he should run off a third time before the five minutes are expired, draw a tight line, and strike him instantly. If you hook him, and he happens to be a large fish, give him line enough, which will exhaust his strength; in time wind up your line by degrees, but do not pull him roughly, for if you do he will plunge in such a manner,

that though he may not be able to break your tackle, yet he may tear away his hold. When you have brought him within ſight, if he begins again to ſtruggle much, give him line again, and ſo on till you maſter and take him. Pike are to be enticed by a large bait, but a ſmall one is much more certain. You ſhould take care that your bait be clear from weeds when you recaſt it into the water, which muſt be done gently, or you will frighten the fiſh, inſtead of encouraging him to take.

There is another way of trolling, and this is by hand. The hook being baited and fixed to the end of a line, and the other end tied round the waiſt of the perſon uſing it, or through the button-holes of his coat, the line muſt be gradually taken up in length, in the left hand, except about a yard, or leſs, which is held in the left hand near the bait; now, with a ſpring jerk, away flies the bait to the extent of the line, in general; then, letting it ſink a little, draw in the line with ſuch a motion, as to keep the bait in good play; by which method many Pikes are taken.

Another

Another way,

Called taking them at ſnap. For this purpoſe, you muſt be provided with a double ſpring hook, being much preferable to all others, as it never fails. When you bait for the ſnap, you muſt make a hole in the ſide of the fiſh-bait, as near the middle as you can, with the point of a probe or your hook; put in your armed wire, or gimp, draw it out at the fiſh's mouth, and ſew it up. When you fiſh thus for the Pike, before you ſtrike, let him run a little, and then ſtrike him the contrary way from that which he runs. The ſnap is beſt uſed in March, the Pike being then very ſhy; and though they will ſeize the bait with ſeeming eagerneſs, yet they will let it go again immediately; to be even with them, therefore, I frequently ſtrike them as ſoon as they take the bait, particularly when I find them in this humour. When the Pike comes, you may ſee the water move, and when you feel him, ſtrike inſtantly the contrary way from that which he takes. It is truly laughable

and amuſing to ſee ſome country people uſe the ſnap. They have a long ſtiff hazel rod or ſtick in one ſolid piece, with a ſmall fork at top, to which they faſten a ſtrong twine line, about a foot or two ſhorter than the rod; immediately on the fiſh taking the bait, they ſtrike very furiouſly, and have him out in an inſtant at their feet, though ſometimes they will throw him over their heads to the length of their line; ſo that the fiſh has no chance of eſcaping, except the hold breaks; but this method affords no ſuch ſport as other anglers have by playing and gradually landing their fiſh; though in this way ſome perſons are very ſucceſsful.

N. B. You muſt play your fiſh-bait with a quicker motion with the ſnap, than in the other methods.

Another way, and the moſt deſtructive.

Let your hook be ſingle, with a long ſhank; and before you fix your ſwivel at the bottom of your line, put on a large cork float that will ſwim a gudgeon; then put

put on the ſwivel and fix the gimp (to which your hook muſt be well and neatly whipt) to it; add a large ſhot or two, to make it ſtand up a little, ſo that when the hook is baited with the gudgeon, it may do ſo properly. You muſt keep your gudgeons quite alive, and when you bait ſtick the hook either through the upper lip, or back fin. Then angle in deep and likely places, letting the bait ſwim at mid-water, which is done by moving the float higher or lower according to the depth of the water. When you have a bite, let the fiſh run a little, and then ſtrike him. By this method you may take Perch as well as Pike, eſpecially if you fiſh with a very ſmall gudgeon, or minnow.

Another way,

Is by artificial fly-fiſhing, though many aſſert that they are not to be taken with a fly at all; I have, however, taken many this way. The fly muſt be made upon a double hook formed of one piece of wire

faſtened to a good link of gimp. It muſt be compoſed of very gaudy materials; ſuch as Pheaſant's, Peacock's, or Mallard's feathers, &c. with the brown and ſofteſt part of Bear's fur, the reddiſh part of that of a Squirrel, with a little yellow mohair for the body. The head is formed of a little fur, ſome gold twiſt, and two ſmall black or blue beads for the eyes. The body muſt be made rough, full, and round; the wings not parted, but to ſtand upright on the back, and ſome ſmaller feathers continued thence all down the back, to the end of the tail; ſo that where you finiſh, they may be left a little longer than the hook, and the whole to be about the ſize of a Wren. In this manner I make this ſort of fly, which will often take Pike when other baits avail nothing; it is chiefly uſed in dark and windy days; and you muſt move the fly quick when in the water, to keep it on the ſurface if poſſible. There are ſeveral ſorts of theſe flies to be had at the fiſhing-tackle ſhops both in town and country, as well as of the hooks and tackle before deſcribed,

and

and all others for uſe, completely fitted up to the ſportſman's hand.

The Pike will take a ſmall Perch (with the fins cut off) or an Eel; and there are other baits beſides fiſh and frogs that the Pikes will take when on feed; ſuch as worms and fat bacon; they are alſo taken very often with ſmall artificial water-rats and mice.

In the ſummer, his beſt biting time is early in the morning and late in the evening; but in winter he will take at any time of the day. This fiſh delights in a ſtill, ſhady, and unfrequented water, with a ſandy, chalkey, or clayey bottom.

Your live baits ſhould be kept in a tin kettle, with holes made in the lid; change your water often, which will keep them alive a long while; keep your dead ones in a tin box made for that purpoſe, with bran, which will be a means of preſerving them longer.

There are other ways of taking a Pike, which do not in ſtrict propriety come under the head of Angling; theſe are as follow:

Firſt,

First, with a ledger bait; that is, a bait fixed to a certain place, and which you may leave while you angle for other fish. It is best to have your baits alive; and when you bait, stick the hook through the upper lip, or back fin, if it be a fish; or if it be a frog, put the arming wire in at his mouth, and out at his gill, and tie the leg above the upper joint, to the wire. The yellowest frogs you can get are always the best for use. Fasten your wire, or gimp, to a strong line, about twelve or fourteen yards long; tie the other end to a stake made fast in the ground, or the stump of a tree, near the Pike's haunt; then place a forked stick conveniently near the water, and let the line pass through the fork, suspending the bait about a yard or more in the water, and fix the line slightly into a notch made in one end of the fork, that when a Pike takes the bait, it may easily slip out, so that he may run off with the line in his hold. The best way is to have a large winch or wheel to hold your line, made fast to an iron spindle to fix into the ground.

Secondly,

Secondly, by what I call *fluxing*. Take a grown goose, or duck, and to one of the legs make fast a line with a baited hook and armed wire, of such a length, as to swim about mid-water; throw it into the river or pond where you think Pikes frequent, keeping it off from land as much as you can. Upon the bait being taken, a duck will instantly be drawn under water; but, upon recovering a little from the surprise, will soon force her head above again, and attempt to set up a loud quacking; when in a moment she will be taken down again; and this contest will continue for some time (especially if the fish be tolerably large); till at last the duck, though sometimes nearly exhausted, will tow her prize to shore, and you may take them up both together. A goose, being a much stronger bird, is seldom or ever taken quite under water this way, even by the very large Pike; but will be so much scared at the attack, and so bewildered for a time, by being pulled about in so many different directions, that at last, upon taking courage, she begins to lash the water

water with her wings, and, adding every effort of ſtrength to her activity, ſecures a landing, as mentioned of the duck.

You may alſo flux them by taking any quantity of blown bladders (according to the ſize the fiſh run); tie them together cloſely and ſtrongly; and at the mouth of each let there hang a line to carry the bait about mid-water. Set them off with a gentle wind, juſt ſufficient to move them properly. The Pike having taken the bait, the bladders will dance and tumble about in a diverting manner. When the fiſh is ſpent, you may throw out a grapple to recover them, if within your reach; but if the water be broad, a boat will, of courſe, be neceſſary. Each of theſe methods yields infinite diverſion to the beholders.—There are alſo means of taking Pike by trimmers and night-lines.

Thirdly, by ſnaring, or haltering. The chief ſeaſon for this ſport is, in the hot months, and the hotteſt part of the day, when the fiſh appear towards the top of the water. When you ſee a Pike thus, fix your eyes ſtedfaſtly upon him, without looking

looking off; for in that case he will be gone you know not whither. This will make him the stiller. Have your snare with you ready fixed, after this manner; take a straight taper pole, that is stiff and strong enough, but not too heavy, and about four yards in length; fasten to it at the smallest end, a piece of hard twisted whip-cord, about a yard long; though it will require more, or less, according to the depth of the water; to the other end of the cord fasten a well-tempered brass wire, made into a noose or snare (or let it be all of wire, without any cord); then, having opened the noose wide enough to slip over the fish's head without touching him, let it down with your pole into the water, even in depth with the Pike, but two or three yards before him, and guide it very gently towards his head, fixing your eyes full upon him till you have brought the snare over his head and gill-fins, but no farther; then immediately, with a strong upright jerk, hoist him to land. You may frequently snare other fish in this way, such as *Trout*, *Carp*, and particularly large *Eels*;

head up to the middle of the ſhank only; then draw the firſt Worm down to the head of the latter, ſo that the tails may hang one above the other, keeping the point of the hook well covered. This is the moſt enticing method that can be adopted in Worm-fiſhing. Uſe a ſmall cork float, to keep the bait about a foot from the bottom, or ſometimes about mid-water. To draw theſe fiſh together, take three or four balls of the beſt and ſtiffeſt clay that can be procured; make holes in them, put one end of a lob-worm into each hole, and cloſe the clay faſt upon them; then throw them into the water where you mean to angle, about a yard or more diſtant from each other. The Worms, being alive in the balls, will move and twiſt about, which tempts the fiſh to feed upon them; but the Worms that you angle with being of a ſuperior kind, they will, on ſight of them, leave thoſe in the clay, and ſeize yours with the greateſt eagerneſs, when you have thus brought them upon their feed; for, by this method, you may draw the fiſh together, as readily

as

as you can poultry in their way. Not *Perch* only, but many other kinds of fish, are drawn together by this ground bait, so that you may at times try the gentle or maggot, and other baits. If you are out in a bad day, and the *Perch* will not be thus brought on feed, slip your float up the line near to the point of your rod, or take it off, and begin to rove for them thus: let down the line longer than the rod, or as long as you can properly throw it out, without injuring your bait, (which should be worms,) and throw it sometimes right across the water, sometimes up, and at others down, and in all directions, drawing the bait towards you, and playing it with the same motion as you spin the minnow; so keep moving about, angling in such places as you think proper. When a fish takes the bait, slacken the line, and give him time before you strike. I have had good sport this way in bad weather, when all other methods would avail nothing; but more

especially when there has been a rough wind from the south or west.

When you rove with a minnow, let it be alive; stick the hook in at the back fin or upper lip, and let him swim in mid-water, or a little lower, by means of a cork float, (such a one as he cannot take under water,) and have a few shot on your line within about nine inches of the hook, to keep the bait down, or he will come to the top of the water when tired. When you fish with a frog, put the hook through the skin of his back, and he will swim the easier. When you have a bite, be sure that you give him line enough, and let him gorge the bait. This way of fishing is best in the months of May and June; for then the Perch are roving about in search of the young fry of the Dace, Roach, and other fish. If you suspect there are *Pike* where you angle, have your hook armed with gimp, and you may take them as well as *Perch*.

The

The *Perch* bite beſt in the latter part of the ſpring; but they are to be taken all the year round. The beſt times for taking them are from about half an hour before the even hours of the day, to half an hour after, except in hot and bright weather, and then from ſun-riſe to ſix o'clock in the morning; and in the evening, from ſix to ſun-ſet. If the day be cool and cloudy, with a ruffling ſouth wind, they will bite all day. When the water has been clear, I have often obſerved a dozen or two of *Perch* in company in a deep place where it has been ſheltered by trees or buſhes; and by keeping myſelf out of ſight, and putting in a nice well-ſcoured worm with fine tackle among them, have ſeen them ſtrive which ſhould take it firſt, and have ſo continued till I have taken the whole.

THE RUFF, OR POPE,

Very much reſembles the Perch. It is of a brown duſkiſh colour about the back,

and of a paliſh yellow about the belly; the upper part of the eye is of a dark brown, the lower part ſomewhat yellow, and the globe of it black; it is marked on the jaws with a double courſe of half circles; the body is rough, with hard ſcales and ſharp prickly fins, which, with the tail, are marked with black ſpots. In length they are generally about four or five inches or more; they are thicker and more bulky in their make than the Perch, and are much more admired for the richneſs and delicacy of their flavour, as well as their wholeſomeneſs.

Their haunts and ſpawning-time.

They are to be found in recluſe places, where the water is deep and runs quietly, with a loamy or muddy bottom; and alſo in ſtill water. They aſſociate in great numbers, and afford good ſport, eſpecially to the young angler. Their principal time of ſpawning is at the beginning of April; but I am of opinion that ſome ſpawn again in October.

How to angle for them; their baits, and biting-times.

Angle for them with tolerably fine tackle; your hook No. 7, with a cork or quill float; and having, by plumbing, found a level bottom, let your bait juſt run on the ground, and throw in ſome ſmall clay-balls with worms, the ſame as for Perch (for want of which, uſe mud-balls, to colour the water if it be clear). You may manage three rods, by laying two of them down, for the bait to reſt on the bottom, and fiſhing with the other in your hand as above directed. Your bait muſt be a ſmall well-ſcoured red worm, which is the beſt and indeed the only proper bait to take them with. When you have a bite, you need not give them much time, for they will ſometimes gorge the bait ſo haſtily, that you muſt uſe your diſgorger, or cut them open, to get out the hook. By angling for them thus, you may often take ſix or eight dozen at a ſtanding. They will bite all day long,

either in the ſpring or ſummer, eſpecially if there be a briſk warm wind; though they will ſometimes bite freely in cold weather.

THE GUDGEON.

I here treat of this fiſh, becauſe where there are *Gudgeons* and *Ruffs* in the ſame water, they keep company together, as do the *Trout* and *Grayling;* though it is not every river that produces the *Ruff*, but the *Gudgeon* is to be found in moſt rivers. Though properly river fiſhes, however, they are ſometimes found in ponds that are fed by ſprings. They are leather-mouthed, with a ſmall barb on each ſide of it; are well ſhaped, and of nearly a ſilver colour, having both body and tail adorned with black ſpots. They are, in general, from about five to ſix inches in length; but in ſome waters run much larger than in others. They are good and wholeſome eating.

Their

Their haunts and ſpawning-time.

Gudgeons delight moſt in gravelly and ſandy ground, and gentle ſtreams. About the latter end of ſpring they ſeek ſhallow water, which they continue to frequent during the hot months; but all the reſt of the year they are generally taken in deep water, where the bottom is ſandy with mud. Their chief time of ſpawning is the latter end of April and beginning of May; but in my opinion they ſpawn again during the ſummer, and alſo in the beginning of autumn.

How to angle for them; their baits, and biting-times.

When you angle for Gudgeons in the ſhallows, your tackle muſt be very fine; a hook No. 7 or 8, with a cork or quill float; and be ſure to let the bait touch the ground; ſome, however, prefer a running line without a float. You ſhould alſo be provided with a Gudgeon-rake, or

pole, to ſtir up the ſand and gravel, which diſcolours the water, and draws them together in ſhoals; and by now and then throwing in a few broken worms, you may often take great quantities. Their baits are the ſmall red worm, gentle, and blood-worm; the laſt of which I think the beſt in this way of angling. When you fiſh in the deeps, let it be exactly in the ſame way as for the Ruffs; by which means you may take ſmall *Perch*, *Ruffs*, and *Gudgeons*. You may often indeed take ſome of them when fiſhing for Roach and Dace, and ſome of the latter when angling for the former. Their biting-time is nearly all day long, from the latter end of ſpring to the beginning of autumn; they bite well in gloomy warm days, but ſeldom begin till about an hour after ſun-riſe, leaving off about an hour before ſun-ſet. For the reſt of the year they only bite about the middle of the day, when the wind blows a little warmiſh; for they do not like to bite in very cold weather, nor ſoon after they have ſpawned;

ſpawned; but at other times, when in the humour, no fiſh bites more freely, nor makes better ſport for the young angler.

THE TENCH

May properly be termed the *fiſh's phyſician*, on account of a natural balſam which he carries about him, that will cure both himſelf and others; ſo that if any other fiſh receive a wound, he will ſeek out the *Tench*, and rubbing the part affected againſt him (which the *Tench* will ſuffer him to do) receive a certain cure, by virtue of this balſam, or ſlime, that is natural about him; and it ſeems as if the voracious *Pike* were ſenſible of this ſovereign virtue, for he will not hurt a Tench of any ſize whatever. It is a delicious fiſh, and exceedingly wholeſome. It is leather-mouthed, and from each corner of the mouth there hangs a little barb; his eyes are large, and of a gold colour, having the irides red; it has ſmall ſmooth

ſcales,

scales, very large smooth fins, and will live some time out of the water.

Their haunts, spawning-time, and season.

Their haunts are the same both in rivers and ponds, being chiefly among weeds, and in places that are well shaded with bushes and rushes. They delight and thrive more in foul than clear water, and are much more numerous in ponds and pits than in rivers, though those taken in the latter are far preferable. They begin to spawn the latter end of June, and will be found spawning in some ponds the latter end of September. The Tench is best in season from the latter end of September till near their spawning-time.

How to angle for them; their baits, and biting-times.

Your tackle must be pretty strong, with a cork, swan, or goose-quill float; the

the hook from No. 3 to No. 6, whipt to a ſtrong ſilk-worm-gut with two or three ſhot. Angle where there are weeds about two feet deep, or at mid-water, and ſometimes a little lower, according as they are in the humour to take. But if there be not a great quantity of mud in the water, uſe ſmall clay-balls, as for the Perch, and now and then throw in a few gentles, which will keep them together. Fiſh half a foot from the bottom; but ſhould the mud be ſo deep as to cover the balls when thrown in, keep to the former way, and bait the hole with bits of lob-worms and gentles. When you have a bite, allow ſome time before you ſtrike. They take ſeveral baits; but the beſt of all is the ſmall red worm taken out of rotten tan, and uſed without any ſcouring; though they will at times take the gentle, waſp, maggot, and green worm from the boughs of trees. They generally come out to feed at the hours of four, eight, and twelve; but their beſt time of biting is, late and early, from the middle of April

till they begin to ſpawn, and afterwards in Auguſt, and the early part of September.

N. B. When you take any out of very muddy places, keep them alive, put them into a tub of clear water, and in a ſhort time they will cleanſe themſelves of that muddy quality to which they are ſubject; and this will give them a more excellent flavour.

THE CARP

Is a fine noble-looking fiſh, originally of foreign extraction, and gifted by Nature with ſuch cunning, that he is by ſome termed the *freſh-water fox*. His head is ſhort in proportion to his body; he has neither tongue nor teeth, but has a fleſhy palate, and is leather-mouthed; his back riſes from his head ſomewhat ſharp and edged; his tail is broad and forked, of a colour between red and black, as is alſo the lower fin; he has ſtrong, large, broad ſcales, and is of a yellowiſh colour when grown; but the young ones appear more of a duſky colour. He is

ſuppoſed

ſuppoſed to live to a greater age than any other ſcaled fiſh. The fleſh, though wholeſome, is rather coarſe; but it goes down very well with good ſauce.

Their haunts, ſpawning-time, and ſeaſon.

Their haunts are in the deepeſt parts of rivers (where the water runs gently) with ſoft muddy bottoms; and in ponds with marly, clayey, or muddy bottoms, where they can be well ſhaded with trees; and they certainly ſpawn ſeveral times in the year; but their firſt and chiefeſt time is in May, and they breed more abundantly in ponds than in running water; but the *river Carp* are much preferable to all others. They are beſt in ſeaſon in March and April.

How to angle for them, their baits, and biting-times.

Your rod ſhould be long and ſtrong; your line ſtrong alſo, with a quill float, and a hook of a medium ſize, whipt to a good

good ſilk-worm-gut, on which have one or two ſhot only, about a foot from the hook. Be mindful to keep out of ſight as much as you can, and lay the line in as gently as poſſible. When you mean to angle for them in earneſt, you ſhould have three rods; one with the bait about mid-water, another about a foot or leſs from the bottom, and the third to lie on the bottom, where the line and ſhot are not diſcovered as they are other ways; but you ſhould, the night before, bait the places in which you intend to fiſh the next day with ale-grains, blood, and broken worms, incorporated with clay. This is the beſt ground-bait that can poſſibly be uſed for them; and the hook-baits ſhould be the ſame as thoſe for the *Tench*. Many ſorts of paſte are uſed; but I never found them effectual.

The beſt method to take *Carp* is with green peas (when in ſeaſon); theſe muſt be boiled a little ſoftiſh, but not ſo much as to break the ſkin; throw a few of them now and then into the water where you angle,

angle, and put one of them on your hook ſo as to ſwim near a foot from the bottom; and in this way of angling, when you have a bite, ſtrike immediately. There is another pleaſing way of taking them, particularly in warm weather, when near their ſpawning-times, and while they are amuſing themſelves amongſt the weeds near the ſurface of the water; which is, by uſing as fine a line as you think you dare venture upon, and baiting either with a fine red or white worm, two gentles, a green worm that is taken from trees and buſhes, or a cadbate. The line muſt be without float or ſhot, thrown out gently, in the ſame manner as in fly-fiſhing, and drawn towards you, ſo as to keep the bait a little under water; but always contrive, if poſſible, to let the bait fall on the leaves of docks or weeds that ſwim on the ſurface of the water; then draw it off very gently, and you will frequently find the *Carp* take it immediately on its dropping into the water. Theſe two laſt methods I hold to be peculiar to

myſelf;

myſelf; and by adopting them I have aſtoniſhed many, even ſome of the beſt anglers in theſe kingdoms. Carps are, in general, very difficult to take on account of their ſagacity and cunning; ſo that there is a neceſſity of exerciſing the virtue of patience when you ſport for them. When you hook a Carp, give him play enough, or he will break your tackle, being not only ſtrong in his element, but a great ſtruggler. His biting-time is early and late, particularly in the warm months; but at other ſeaſons you may take ſome at different times of the day, according as the weather is, and they are in the humour.

THE CHUB, CHEVIN, NOB, OR BOTLING.

This fiſh is known in different parts of the country, and by different perſons, under theſe ſeveral names. The *Chub* much reſembles the *Carp*, but is of a longer form; his head is ſhort, and his teeth are in his throat; he has a very wide leather-

mouth,

mouth, broad ſcales, is altogether a handſome fiſh to look at, and will ſometimes weigh upwards of five pounds; yet it is not in much eſteem, the fleſh being coarſe, and, when not in ſeaſon, full of ſmall hairy bones; the roe, however, is exceedingly good.

Their haunts, ſpawning-time, and ſeaſon.

Their haunts are chiefly in rivers whoſe bottoms are ſandy or clayey; in deep holes among rocks, and under hollow banks; in thoſe that are ſhaded with trees, weeds, &c. and ſometimes in ſtreams and deep water where the current is ſtrong; they are alſo found very large in ponds into which rivulets run. They ſpawn the latter end of April, and are in ſeaſon from the beginning of Auguſt till the latter end of March; but are moſt in perfection in the winter months, having then very few of thoſe hairy bones before mentioned.

How to angle for them; their baits, and biting-times.

You ſhould have a ſtout long rod, a good ſtrong line, with a yard or more of the ſtrongeſt ſilk-worm-gut at bottom; your hook proportioned in ſize to that of the bait which you uſe; a ſwan-quill float, and the line ſhotted about eight or ten inches from the hook, ſufficient to ſink the quill, except about a quarter of an inch; uſe the ſame ground-bait as for *Carp*, baiting your hook with a ſufficient quantity of the hard roe of a Salmon (boiled a little) to fill the bend properly, which is an excellent bait when rightly managed. They will take gentles, waſp-maggots (which muſt be baked in an oven before they are uſed), paſte made of new fine white bread without being made wet, worked up in the hand, and coloured with vermillion as near as poſſible to that of the Salmon's roe; this paſte will not eaſily waſh off the hook, and is the moſt killing bait of the kind

kind that can be used. But the best baits of all for bottom or float-fishing for the Chub are, old Cheshire cheese, (such as will mould in your hand without crumbling,) and the pith from the back-bone of an ox or a cow, with the outward skin taken off carefully, so as not to bruise the inward skin. They will take the former of these two at all times of the year; but the best time to use them both is at the latter end of summer and all the winter. When you bait with the cheese, put a round lump about the size of a cherry on a large hook, to cover the bend, and some way up the shank. Fish about half a foot from the bottom, or you may let your bait lie on the ground, particularly in cold raw weather; but if you do not bait the hole, you may fish at any depth you please. When you have a bite, the float will very swiftly be drawn under water; then strike immediately; and when you hook him, give him play enough, holding a tolerably tight line to keep him clear of weeds or stumps, which at sight

of you he will endeavour to reach for ſhelter; and if not properly managed, he will break your tackle, though his hold ſeldom or never breaks. In the ſpring of the year they will take a ſmall red worm.

Theſe fiſh are alſo to be taken at the top or a little under water, by a very pleaſant method, which is called *dibbing*, *dipping*, or *bobbing*, and is performed in hot weather, when you may find them baſking on the ſurface of the water where they haunt; but you muſt be very careful to keep out of ſight; for the *Chub* will fly under water even at the ſhadow of the rod. Having your line wound up to the length of about a yard, or as convenience requires, bait the hook with a *Graſshopper*, if to be had, and lay it ſoftly and with caution about four or five inches before the fiſh that you wiſh to catch, and he will infallibly take it. They will alſo take the cadbate or caddis, cock-chaffers, (which in ſome countries are called caterpillars,) beetles, blue-bottles, and almoſt

any

any natural or artificial fly that is in ſeaſon. You may alſo bob for them over buſhes, and under hollow banks, where the fiſh cannot ſee you nor you them; but they are felt very forcibly when they take. They are often caught by the common way of fly-fiſhing, with a long line and artificial fly, particularly the red ſpinner, and alſo, when ſporting for other kinds of fiſh. Their biting times are chiefly from before ſun riſe till eight or ten o'clock in the morning, and from four till after ſunſet in the evening in the ſummer, (though ſome will take by chance at any time of the day,) and in the middle of the day in winter.

THE RUD, OR FINSCALE,

Is a fiſh not much known in theſe countries. It is broader than a *Carp* or a *Roach*, but not ſo thick, yet not ſo flat or thin as a *Bream*; it is of a duſky yellow colour, with large ſcales; the holes of the noſtrils are double on each ſide; the palate like that of a Carp; the eyes reddiſh; on the covers of the gills are ſpots of a

blood colour, the gill fins are whiter than the others, the belly fins of a deepish red, and the back fin is darker than the rest. The general length of this fish is from about ten to sixteen inches, some of them weighing two pounds and upwards. Their flesh is exceedingly wholesome, and much esteemed; but they are very scarce.—[*See the Account of the Rivers, &c. in* Part I.]

Their haunts, season, and time of spawning.

Their haunts in rivers are chiefly in deepish gentle streams and deep still water, where the bottom has a kind of slimy mud, sand, or fine gravel, and among weeds; and in other waters, in holes among the weeds. They are always in season, except in the time of spawning, which is in April, when they swim in shoals, casting their spawn among the weeds that grow in the water.

How to angle for them; their baits, and biting-times.

Your tackle must be pretty strong, with a quill float, and a hook proportioned to the

the bait you angle with, baiting the hole the ſame as for *Chub*, and fiſhing about the ſame depths; except on the ground. Their baits, in this way, are, a fine red worm, gentles, waſp-maggots, caddis, and the paſte before mentioned. When you fiſh among weeds, have no float nor ſhot, and uſe the worm or other bait a little under water.—They are taken at top, either with natural or artificial flies, by whipping with a long line, or dibbing or bobbing with a ſhort one, as before deſcribed.—Their biting times are, in warm bright weather, early and late; when a little cooliſh, the fore and afternoons; and in the winter, when you can ſtand it, the middle of the day. This fiſh, when hooked, ſtruggles hard, and requires time in landing.

THE BREAM

Is a very coarſe fiſh, and little eſteemed, being very bony, and the fleſh ſoft and clammy; it ſometimes affords good ſport to thoſe who chooſe to angle for it the right

way. He has a ſharp noſe, a ſmall ſucking mouth in proportion to his ſize, no teeth, but a ſoft fleſhy palate; the head is ſmall, ſomewhat broad at the top, and ſmooth; it has a hog back, of a colour between blue and black; the ſides of the largeſt are of a yellowiſh colour, and the belly reddiſh; it has a forked tail, and is much flatter and broader than the Roach.

Their haunts, ſpawning-time, and ſeaſon.

In rivers they delight moſt in gentle ſoft ſtreams, and in the deepeſt and broadeſt parts, near weeds, where the bottom is clay or ſand; and in ponds, in the moſt quiet, wide, and deep parts. They begin to ſpawn about the latter end of June, and are moſt in ſeaſon when big with roe.

How to angle for them, their baits, and biting-times.

You ſhould have a ſtrong line, with gut at bottom, the hook for a worm No. 5, but

but for other baits ſmaller, and a ſwan-quill float. When you have fixed upon a place to angle in, plumb the bottom, and let your bait run about an inch from it. You may have another rod or two, which you may lay down, and let the baits be on the ground, keeping from the water as far as convenience will permit; then throw into the place a ground bait of malt grains, bran, blood, and clay, which ſhould be done over night as well as at the time you angle. Their beſt baits, however, are the red paſte, gentles, waſp-maggots, the ſmall red worm, and the graſs-hopper in June and July.—The Bream is a ſtrong fiſh, and runs hard when firſt hooked; but after two or three turns he will fall on his ſide, which enables you to bring him to land with eaſe.—The beſt times of biting are, from ſun-riſe to eight o'clock in the morning, and from four in the afternoon to ſun-ſet; and it is beſt angling when the water is a little thick after rains, for at ſuch times they will frequently take all day.

THE

THE ROACH

Is a pretty fish, either in, or fresh out of the water. It has a small head, a leather-mouth, which is small also, and its teeth are in the throat; the circle of the eye resembles a gold colour; it has a hog back, which is tolerably thick for its size; the scales are large; the fins in general red, particularly when in season; and the tail is a little forked. It is a very silly fish, and the flesh of it is but in little esteem, being rather bony, though exceedingly wholesome, and the roe particularly good. There is a kind of *Roach* in some ponds and standing waters, that is very flat, having whitish eyes and fins, and the tail more forked than those in rivers, but which are good for nothing; they seem to be of a species between a *Roach* and a *Bream*, and never grow very large.—Roach are much better in some rivers than others, but there are none of them good in ponds. They are taken in many rivers as large as near two pounds weight; but the best size for

eating

eating is about half a pound; and in my opinion they are not ſo deſpicable as many affect to think them, perhaps becauſe being ſo numerous they are very common.

Their haunts, ſpawning-time, and ſeaſon.

They delight in deep, gentle, running water, and holes that are well ſhaded, having the bottom fine gravel, ſand, or a kind of ſlimy marl. In the ſummer they often frequent more ſhallow water about the tails of fords, under banks, and among weeds, particularly when the water is thick. They ſpawn in May, begin to be in ſeaſon in July, and continue ſo till near their time of ſpawning again, but are beſt in the winter ſeaſon.

How to angle for them, their baits and biting-times.

The beſt way of angling for theſe fiſh is the following: Let your rod be long or ſhort, proportioned to the place you fiſh in,

in, rather ſtiff, and ſuch a one as will ſtrike true; your line about a foot ſhorter than the rod, pretty ſtrong at top, and taper to the bottom, which muſt be a fine ſmooth ſilk-worm-gut, coloured browniſh, or of a water-colour; the hook No. 8. Put one ſmall ſhot on your line about a hand's length from the hook, and the reſt large, cloſe together, about four or five inches higher up, ſufficient ſo to ſink the float (which ſhould be a ſwan quill) as that you may juſt diſcern the top of it above water. When you fix on a place for ſport, plumb the bottom, and let your float carry the bait not more than an inch from it. The bottom muſt be level, the run gentle, and the water deep when clear, or in winter; at other times, when the water is coloured with a freſh, and eſpecially if on the riſe, you may take them beſt at depths from about three quarters of a yard to that of a yard and half. If you fiſh where there is a tide, or when the water is on the riſe or fall, you muſt be careful to plumb now and then, and keep your depth, as near as poſſible, as above directed.

directed. When you have thus taken the depth, lay aſide your rod, and throw in at the top of your ſwim three balls of ground bait (about the ſize of an egg) with a ſmall ſtone in each to ſink them to the bottom, and theſe will gradually break and ſpread about, and entice the fiſh to ſtop there after being drawn together: this bait is to be made with large wheat bran, a little ſweet coarſe flour ſufficient to bind the bran, and ſcalding water, ſo as you may make it up in a large ball or two the ſize of a penny loaf, but not nearly ſo ſtiff as dough, ſo that it may not break in going down; for if it ſtick together too much, it will not break in the water; if too little, it will waſh away, and the fiſh will all follow it. Be careful alſo, when you throw your little balls in, that they do not go too far out, for you ſhould fiſh over them. Bait with a grain or too of Salmon's roe, or a ſmall round bit of red paſte in imitation of it, (ſuch as mentioned before for the Chub,) or with gentles; but I never uſe any other ſort of bait for this method than the paſte, for that

that is equally as good as the roe, and will continue on the hook a long time (even if you ſtrike and miſs the fiſh) without that abſurd way of uſing cotton amongſt it. You muſt keep a ſharp eye on the float; ſtrike at the leaſt nibble; and when you hook a fiſh, if it be large give him play; for they are ſtrong, and ſtruggle much; therefore never uſe a ſingle hair line, as ſome adviſe, eſpecially where the fiſh run large. They are alſo to be taken in warm weather with cads and natural flies under water, and an artificial fly at top, particularly in warm cloſe evenings a little before ſun-ſet, till near dark; but then you muſt have a well-ſcoured gentle at the end of the fly. They will, however, take many other baits, particularly moſt of thoſe mentioned for *Chub.*—In mild cloudy weather, they will bite all day; in hot, morning and evening; and in cold, in the middle of the day.

N. B. If the water be not too clear two hooks may be uſed in the firſt way, by taking a ſmall bit of gut about two

or three inches long, with a hook to it, and looping it very neatly close above the single shot, so that it may stand out from the line; bait it with gentles, and the lower hook with the paste or roe; and sometimes, when you find them shy, with a gentle slipped into the bend of the hook, and a grain of the roe or paste on the point.

THE DACE, OR DARE,

Is in nature similar to the *Roach*, but differs from it in make, by having a wider mouth, blunter nose, and larger head, and in being longer and thicker; the scales are not quite so large, nor are the fins red; it is a brisker and more lively fish in the water, and is upon the whole more handsome than the other; it is also better eating, being sweeter, and not quite so dry; neither is it so bony; the roe of it is also very good.

They *haunt* mostly the same places as the *Roach*; but they are frequently found more in the streams and stronger parts of the

the water, among weeds, and may be ſeen in ſhoals on the ſhallows near to ſtreams, particularly in the warm months. They *ſpawn* in *March*, come in ſeaſon ſoon afterwards, and continue ſo till near their ſpawning time again, but are beſt in the winter. Angle for them at bottom, in the ſame way as for *Roach*; for they mix together, and take the ſame baits.

But the beſt way to take *Dace* from the middle of April to the beginning of October is, by artificial fly-fiſhing with a long line; the fly generally either black, brown, or red, made very ſmall on a hook No. 8 or 9; or you may have the three on the line together, about a yard from each other, letting the black one be the end fly, with a gentle at the end of it, and the other two the drop flies without the gentle.—Thus you may take a hundred of them in the courſe of the morning or afternoon, when they are on the fords as above mentioned, and the weather favourable; particularly in rivers where the tide flows a moderate height (as in the *Thames*, for inſtance, between Kew and Richmond bridges);

bridges); for every tide is a kind of freſh to the fiſh, and as it clears off, they will take wonderfully this way, at any time of the day. Their biting time is chiefly the ſame as the *Roach*; and after a hot, bright day, they will take the above flies in the cleareſt water, from a little before ſun-ſet till you can ſee to angle for them no longer.

This is a fiſh that affords great ſport to the angler; ſo that there is more pleaſure in catching, than in eating it.

THE BLEAK, BLEY, OR WHITING,

Is a very pretty but ſmall fiſh, being ſeldom or never more than ſix inches long. The head is ſmall, and the ſcull tranſparent; the eyes are large with a blood coloured ſpot on the lower ſide; the body is ſomewhat broadiſh and flat, not much unlike that of a ſprat. The back is of a blueiſh brown, or greeniſh colour; the ſcales thin, and of a ſilver colour, and the fins white.—Some call it the *Water Swallow*, on account of its nimbleneſs in catch-

ing flies; and others the *freſh water Sprat.* The fleſh is ſweet and pleaſant, and would be in more eſteem if the fiſh were larger. They are very reſtleſs, generally moving about from place to place, their *haunts* being ſometimes in deep, ſtill water, and at the ſides and tails of ſtreams, where the water ſhelves off, and takes a gentle turn back again; at others, in the ſtreams, which may be obſerved by their ſwimming near the ſurface of the water, and their very active manner of taking and diverting themſelves with ſmall flies and inſects. They are always in ſeaſon except when ſpawning, which I take to be in May. When you angle purpoſely for the *Bleak*, your tackle muſt be very fine, with four or five ſmall hooks a little above each other, ſwimming by the aſſiſtance of a ſmall quill float a little deeper than mid-water, and baited with different baits, ſuch as a gentle, a blood-worm, a ſmall caddis or ſtick-bait, the houſe fly (or any fly that you obſerve them feed upon), and a very ſmall bit of red paſte, throwing in now and then a ſmall handful of malt grains, or a little chewed

bread, to keep them together. By this method you may take two or three at a time; and this is frequently done by whipping alſo, uſing the ſmall *Dace flies*. In a ſummer's evening, they afford great ſport, and are very inſtructive to the young *fly-fiſher*.

N. B. I ſhall here remark, that by the method ſet down for *Roach-fiſhing* with the ground bait, paſte, &c. may be taken alſo the *Chub*, *Dace*, *Gudgeon*, *Bleak*, *Bream*, and ſometimes the *Perch*; and let it be always remembered, that your ground baits muſt be inferior to your hook baits.

THE MINNOW, OR PINK,

Is one of the ſmalleſt fiſhes. It is of a greeniſh or wavy ſky colour on the ſides, having no ſcales; the back blackiſh, and the belly white. Though ſo diminutive in ſize, the Minnow may be compared, for the excellency of its taſte, to ſome of the moſt famed fiſh. They are uſually full of ſpawn all the ſummer, (for they breed often,) during which time, particularly in

hot days, they will bite very eagerly all day long, and afford great ſport to youths and others that like to angle for them.—You ſhould have three or four very ſmall hooks baited with the ſmalleſt red worm you can get, or a bit of one; and a ſmall quill float. Fiſh deeper than mid-water, or near the ground in ſhallow places, and at the ſides of ſmall ſtreams. They have been noticed before as being excellent baits.

THE LOACH

Is a very ſmall ſlimy fiſh without ſcales, and of rather a longiſh make. He is bearded like the *Gudgeon* and *Barbel*, and freckled with black and light browniſh ſpots. The Loach is of a very pleaſant taſte, and is recommended to ſick perſons as being very nouriſhing.—He is found by the ſides of ſtreams, and in rivulets, among the gravel, or where there is a little ſlight mud and gravel together, with weeds; and is to be taken with a very ſmall red worm. This fiſh is a good bait for others, particularly for *Eels*.

THE

THE BULL-HEAD, OR MILLER'S-THUMB,

Is a very ſmall fiſh, and unpleaſant to look at, having a large broad head, not much unlike that of a toad, and very disproportioned to his body, which is quite ſmall. It has a large mouth, no teeth, but the lips are like a fine file, and with theſe it nibbles its food. It has no ſcales, but is ſpeckled with black, brown, and whitiſh ſpots. The largeſt of them are excellent eating, after you have cut away the head.—They ſpawn in *April*, and are found all the ſummer in holes among mud and ſtones, and among weeds and ſtones in clear water, wherein you may ſee them ſunning themſelves in a hot day, upon flat ſtones and on the gravel. Put your hook with a ſmall red worm before them, and they will take it inſtantly. A child, or thoſe who know nothing about angling, may take them this way. They are alſo good baits.

THE STICKLEBACK, BANSTICKLE, OR SHARPLING,

Is an extremely ſmall prickly fiſh (the ſmalleſt of all), and is called by theſe ſeveral names in different countries. They are not worth the angler's notice, except to ſerve as baits, with the prickles cut off; for which purpoſe they are as good as the Minnow, or better for the *Perch*, in pond fiſhing. They may be taken with a very ſmall hook, and a bit of a ſmall worm, and are to be found in moſt ſtagnated waters, and little inlets of rivers, &c.

Though I have mentioned the moſt proper baits for all the different fiſh that I have deſcribed in due order; yet it remains for me to give inſtructions for procuring and preſerving ſome of them for uſe.

The Gentle, or Maggot.

Thoſe who live in or near London may buy gentles in proper condition for the day

day on which they wiſh to uſe them; but for the convenience of thoſe who reſide in the country, remote from ſuch convenience, I ſhall ſet down the beſt method of breeding them.

Take an ox's or cow's liver, and ſcarify it pretty deeply all over; then hang it up and cover it, but not too cloſely, as the flies will blow it better this way than open. In two or three days the gentles may be ſeen alive; then take down the liver, and put it into a deep earthen pan; and there let it remain till you find that the firſt brood are of full growth; then put into the pan, (letting the liver remain,) a ſufficient quantity of fine ſand and bran, and in a few days they will come out of the liver into it, and ſcour themſelves; in a ſhort time after, if you put any inſtrument through the liver and hang it acroſs the pan, the reſt, or latter brood, will ſoon drop out and become fit for uſe; and thus you may preſerve them for winter fiſhing, if you are ſo inclined, by breeding them in October, and keeping them a little warmer than thoſe bred in the ſummer,

till they come to their full growth, after which they are to be put into a dampiſh vault, in the ſame pan.

Thoſe bred in the ſummer time, if it were not for the bran and ſand, which preſerves them, as well as makes them clean enough to be handled, would very ſoon ſink into a death-like ſtate, the ſkins becoming blackiſh, red huſks full of white matter, and in a ſhort time afterwards they would become flies (a ſuperior ſtate to a crawling worm). Thoſe produced in the autumn, from any thing whatever, will continue in this ſtate all the winter, provided they can get juſt under the ſurface of the earth, in fields, gardens, &c. &c. and in the ſpring, as the weather becomes warmiſh, they change into flies. Thus they preſerve their kind from year to year.

The Cadbate.

This is a very excellent bait, and is to be found in moſt plenty, in gravelly and ſtony rivulets, and by the ſides of ſtreams in large rivers, among ſtones. When you want

want them, turn up the ſtones, and you will find the beſt ſtick to them. When you have procured a ſufficient quantity, put them into a linen bag, hang them up, and dip them, bag and all, into water once a day, for five or ſix days; they will then turn yellow, become tough and fit for uſe, being much better for angling than when firſt taken out of the water. There are different ſorts of them, according to the countries they are bred in; and it is curious to obſerve the very different flies that they produce.

The Lob, or Dew-Worm,

Is found in gardens, paſture lands, &c. late in ſummer evenings, with a lanthorn and candle. They are alſo to be dug up in fields, and other places by the ſides of ditches and drains. The beſt ſort are thoſe that are free from knots, with a red head, a ſtreak down the back, and a broad tail, from which, in ſome countries, they are called ſquirrel tails. To ſcour and preſerve them for uſe, take ſome moſs; (the beſt is that which grows on heaths,

being ſoft and white, and when gathered will be clear and free from dirt at the roots) dip it into clean water, wring it dry-iſh, and put half of it into an earthen pot, then the worms, and the other part of the moſs, at top; cover it cloſe that they may not get out, and keep it in a cool place in ſummer, and in a warmer in winter, ſo as to prevent the hot weather or froſt from killing them. The moſs muſt be changed every third or fourth day in ſummer, and once in about ſix days in winter. In a week's time your worms will begin to be fit for uſe; from theſe ſupply your worm-bag, when you require this kind of worm; and what you have not uſed, (upon your return home) put into the pot again.

Brandlings, Red Worms, and Gilt-Tails,

Are found in the ſame dunghills together, which conſiſt of hog's dung, horſe's dung, and rotten earth; and alſo in old thatch and dung; but thoſe worms that

that are found in tanner's bark, after it has been uſed and laid by till quite rotten, are the beſt of all; and, as before obſerved, they are generally better for angling without any ſcouring. You may preſerve all theſe together in one pot, as in the caſe of *Lob-Worms;* and when you mean to uſe the *Brandlings*, or others, pick them out by themſelves the evening before, and put them into a bag, with moſs moiſtened with ſweet thiniſh cream, and they will appear more beautiful and tempting.

The long White Worms,

Found chiefly in turnip-fields where the ſoil is of a ſtiffiſh quality, are longer than the *Brandlings*, and naturally tough; and are a good bait, eſpecially in muddy water. Preſerve them in ſome of their own earth, keeping it properly damp, with ſome moſs at top.

The

The Marſh-Worms

Are to be found in marſhy ground, and rich banks of rivers; they are of a blueiſh caſt, are tender, and require more ſcouring in moſs than moſt other worms, but are good baits.

The Cow-dung Red Worms

Are found in the fields under cow-dung nearly dry. The heads of theſe worms are of a ſhining dark brown; they have flat tails, are good baits, and may occaſionally be uſed when taken, if the angler has exhauſted the worm-baits he took out with him; but are beſt ſcoured and preſerved as other worms.

The Cow-dung Bobs,

So called in general, are the produce of the *Beetles*, and are found, in the ſtate of worms or grubs, under cow-dung and horſe-dung in the fields, when it is about half

half dry. They are of a yellowiſh white, with red heads; and are beſt preſerved in ſome of the earth from under the dung where they are found, and a little fine moſs, taking care to keep them moiſt and cool.

The ſhort White Worms, or Bobs,

Are found in mellow ſandy ground, and chiefly in the autumn by following the plough. They have pale red heads, are yellowiſh at the tail, and their bodies, when taken, reſemble the colour of the earth they are found in, but when ſcoured are of a pale white. They are an excellent winter bait, and to preſerve them, you ſhould keep them in a pot in ſome of their own earth with dryiſh moſs at top, and let them be in a warm place. The beſt way to render them tough is, to put them into boiling milk for about two minutes, or leſs, the morning you mean to uſe them.

Dock

Dock, or Flag-Worms,

Are to be found among docks or flags, in old pits, and other ſuch places, by pulling them up, when you may find theſe grubs in little huſks among the fibres of the roots. They are of a paleiſh yellow or white, and may be preſerved in the ſame way as the *Cadbate.*

The long Dock-Worms

Are of a fine pale red, without knots. They are chiefly found in moiſt places near dock-roots, and are beſt taken by ſhaking the earth with a dung-fork. They are excellent baits, eſpecially for Carp and Tench, and may be preſerved in moſs. In the largeſt ſort of *ſedges* may be found, in the hollow parts near the roots, a black-headed large grub about an inch long, which is not to be found in any other place: it is a good bait for pond-fiſhing, though it is very tender, but may be rendered tougher by boiling, as mentioned of the *Bobs.*

The

The Palmers, and other Grubs,

Are found by beating the branches of oaks, crab-trees, hawthorns, and others, that grow over highways, paths, and open places. When you have picked up a ſufficient quantity, in order to preſerve them for uſe, put each ſort into different boxes, with little holes on the top and ſides, to give them air; and let them have room enough; put to them a little of the bark, and a proper quantity of the leaves from which they were taken. Feed them five or ſix times a week, and every time you change the bark and leaves be ſure to take all the old away. Keep your boxes in a garden, or any where among graſs, and you will find them good, but tender baits. Some Palmers are alſo found on herbs and plants. There are likewiſe the *Cabbage-Grubs*, found on, and in the hearts of cabbages, which are nearly as good baits as the *Cadbates*. Theſe are to be fed and

preſerved

preſerved with the ſame kind of leaves as they are found on.

Salmon's Roe.

Thoſe who wiſh to preſerve this bait for winter and ſpring fiſhing, may do it, by boiling it as heretofore obſerved; then, having a glazed earthen pot, ſprinkle a little ſalt over the roe, put a layer of wool at the bottom of the pot, and then a layer of roe, and ſo on till the pot is filled. It is a very good bait.

Numerous *paſtes* and *oils*, which many have preſcribed for enticing fiſh to bite, are prepoſterous and idle chimeras.

The beſt method of getting and ſeaſoning Stocks and Tops for Rods, and making them.

Those who live in the country, and wiſh to make their own *Rods*, ſhould get them in the winter time, when the ſap is

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in the roots of the trees; about Christmas is by far the beſt ſeaſon. Hazel, when properly managed, makes good rods, with a little whalebone at the top; but, let your ſtocks be what they may, be ſure to get them of a proper ſize, well grown, and as free from knots as poſſible; and your tops, the beſt ruſh ground-ſhoots, without knots, and proportionally taper; keep them in a proper place free from wet, where they ſhould continue till the beginning of the autumn following; then take ſuch as you want to form a rod, bathe them over a gentle fire, ſet them as ſtrait as poſſible, and lay them aſide for a day or two; after which take and rub them over with a piece of flannel and linſeed oil, which will poliſh them, and fetch off the ſuperfluous bark, if any; tie them up ſtrait, and ſo keep them till the beginning of the next ſpring, when they will be ſeaſoned for uſe. Then take and match them together in juſt proportion, and let your rod conſiſt of three, four, five, or ſix

parts if you ferrule it, according to the width of the water you angle in, or as you wish to have it in length, taking care that they fit with the greatest nicety; so that though there be so many joints, the whole rod may move as if it were but of one piece. If you do not ferrule the parts, mind that they are cut to join each other with the greatest exactness, and spliced neatly with glue boiled in strong quick-lime water, and stirred till it becomes smooth and all alike; and whip them well with waxed thread, as before observed of the fly-rods. When your rod is completed, varnish it over neatly with a varnish made of half a pint of linseed oil and a little India rubber scraped fine; put them over a slow fire, and stir them well together till the rubber be dissolved, and boil and skim it; use it warm, and lay the rod aside till quite dry; it will appear on the rod like a fine thin bark, is very durable, and will preserve it from being worm-eaten, and from other injuries. If the rod be a hollow one, tie a

rag to the end of a ſtick, dip it in linſeed oil, and rub it well in the inſide about three or four times a year.

How to make Hair Lines, chooſe Hooks, &c.

LET your hairs be long, round, clear, and free from frets or ſcales; of a kind of glaſs colour, or of a pale blueiſh or green watery caſt, and light bay; and for a fly-line, if you mean to fiſh without a reel, take three hairs, put them level at top, and knot them there; then cut off the other ends, as far as they appear faint, leaving all of the ſame length; then hold them near the top, between your thumb and finger of the left hand, and begin to twiſt them towards you with the thumb and finger of the right hand, ſtroking them after every twiſt, below the hand you hold them in, to keep them open and free from ſnarls, which the twiſting ſometimes occaſions; in this manner proceed to the end, and then knot it.

When you have made four of these, make four more with four hairs each, and then four with five hairs; and so on, till you have as many as will complete your line; then put them into water for about twenty minutes, when you will find whether any of the hairs shrink in the links; and such as do must be twisted over again. When your links are thus finished, take the four smallest and tie them together in water-knots, leaving the finest, if there be any difference, still lowermost, and so on till your line is made; then cut away the short ends pretty near to the knots, whip them with well-waxed silk, and make a loop at each end of the line, the strongest end to fasten on to the loop at the top of your rod, and the other to loop your bottom links to, which should never consist of more than two or three, of either gut or hair, for fly or bottom-fishing. This kind of line should be made from nine to twelve yards in length. When you

wish

wiſh to make ſtrong lines for bottom or other angling, you may begin with any number of hairs, and increaſe them every link, or every other; but for very ſtrong lines you ſhould uſe an engine, which may be bought at the fiſhing-tackle ſhops, with proper directions for uſing it.

N. B. When you make links of four hairs, you may divide them as you twiſt, keeping two on each ſide your hand; and when your links conſiſt of ſix hairs, keep them divided in three equal parts; and ſo on, for any ſize that you are able to twiſt with your fingers, which is always better than by any other method of twiſting.

Your choice of *Hooks* ſhould be thoſe made of the beſt-tempered fine ſteel wire; generally longiſh in the ſhank, and ſtrong and rather deepiſh in the bend; the point fine and ſtrait, and as true as it can be ſet to be level with the ſhank, which for fly-making ſhould be tapered off to the end of it, that the fly may be finiſhed the neater; be careful alſo that the hook has

a good barb.—I have, by many years experience, found these kinds of hooks to be more sure, and better than any crooked hooks whatever; they do not make so large an orifice when you hook a fish, nor are they so liable to break the hold through as the crooked bent ones are; and in trying them for several seasons one against another, I found, that I missed in the rising, or biting at bottom, considerably more fish, and lost more after being hooked with the crooked ones, than with those I have here described, and which of course I now always use. The best of the kind are made at Limerick in Ireland.

Floats for angling are of many kinds, such as swan-quills, goose-quills, Muscovy-duck-quills, and porcupine-quills; the first of which is the best when you use light baits in rivers or deep water, and the others for slow water, or ponds where the water is not very deep; for heavy fishing with worm or minnow, either in rivers or ponds, a cork float is best,

beſt, and is made by having a ſound cork without holes or flaws, bored through with a hot iron, and a quill put into it of a fit proportion, open at each end for the line to run through. Cut the cork of a pyramidal form, and make it ſmooth with a fine file. Your quill floats muſt carry ſhot enough ſo to ſink them as that you can juſt ſee the top above water, that you may the better perceive the ſlighteſt nibble; and as to your cork floats, let there be ſufficient ſhot to make them ſtand upright in the water when the ſhot are off the bottom; by which you may know when you fiſh on the bottom or not; for when the ſhot are on the ground, the float will fall on one ſide, and not ſtand up.

When you go out a bottom-fiſhing, &c. you ſhould have with you different kinds of *lines; links; hooks; floats*, and *ſpare caps; ſplit ſhot; ſhoemaker's wax* in a piece of leather; *ſilk;* a *plummet*, to fix the depth of the water; *red paſte; gentles* in a box; *worms of different ſorts*, and

ground-bait;—a clearing-ring, to diſengage the hook when entangled, by running it up the rod, and gently down the line (by a ſtrong twine long enough for any ſuch purpoſe) to where the hook is faſtened, if at a ſtump, or other immoveable thing; but if it be weeds, let it go below the hook; then pull away at the twine, and the ring will break the weeds, and ſave your line and hook; in the other caſe, if it does not bring away your hook, it will break the line near to it, and prevent it from being ſtrained in any other place;—*a landing-net*, to land large fiſh with, ſome of which are made with joints to fold up for convenience;—a *diſgorger*, to put down the throat of a fiſh when he has gorged the hook, till you touch it, at the ſame time pulling the line, it will be freed;—and a *fiſh-baſket*, to carry your fiſh in.

The

The beſt methods of colouring Gut and Hair brown.

Take ſome alum pounded, boil it well till diſſolved; then add a pound of walnut-tree bark from the branches when the ſap is up, or the buds, or green nuts; boil it an hour, and let it ſtand, after ſkimming it, about ten minutes; then put in the gut or hair for about a minute (ſtirring it round) or till you like the colour. If you let it continue there too long, it will become too dark, and make the gut or hair rotten; and I think the lighter it is tinged with this colour the better. You may alſo make it browniſh, by ſteeping it in ſalt and ale.

For a blueiſh water-colour.

Proceed as above; only add logwood inſtead of the walnut, ſtill being careful not to colour it too much.

For a pale watery green.

Boil about a quarter of a pound of ſoot in a pint of ſtrong alum-water, with a little juice of walnut-tree leaves, for half an hour, and ſteep your gut or hair therein when it is nearly cold.

A ſhort hint for angling where the water is brackiſh, &c.

THERE are to be taken, near to the mouths of rivers when the tide is flowing up, ſeveral ſorts of fiſh, ſuch as Whitings, Baſe or Baſs, Coal-fiſh, the Fry of Cods and Haddocks (which are very nice eating), Flat-fiſh, Eels, &c.

From *piers*, or a little way out at ſea, may be taken larger Whiting, ſmall Cod-fiſh, Haddock, ſmall Turbot, large Plaice, and others, having a long ſtrong rod and line, the line well leaded, a large hook, and a large cork float.

Bait

Bait for the former with ſcoured red worms, ſhrimps, and gentles; for the latter, with one or two large well-ſcoured worms, a raw muſcle, the inſide of a ſmall raw crab whipt round the hook with a little white wool, a bit of a Whiting or other fiſh, &c. fiſhing near or on the bottom, where the water is not too deep; at other times a little more than mid-water, according to the kind of bait that you uſe.

Mackarel may be taken, from rocks or other places near the ſea, when the tide is in, in parts where they frequent, by baiting with a bit of new ſcarlet broad-cloth, or a ſmall piece of one of their own ſpecies, ſwimming about mid-water, or lower, if you can for the depth, with a good large cork float. But all theſe ways of angling are ſo well known to thoſe who reſide near the ſea, that I ſhall not further comment on the ſubject.

ANGLING

IN

ALL ITS BRANCHES,

&c. &c. &c.

PART THE THIRD.

Some ſhort remarks on the pleaſure of fly-fiſhing, and its ſuperiority over all other branches of the art of angling.—A complete liſt of artificial flies that will take fiſh in all waters, whether large or ſmall, in the three kingdoms; conſiſting of Salmon flies, Salmon-Trout flies, Standard flies, and the beſt of other kinds that can be uſed; the materials they are made of, and the method of making each fly in order as they are ſeverally deſcribed, by a new method peculiar to the Author, and more effectual than any that has hitherto been practiſed; which flies, after many years real practice, and ſtrict obſerva-

tions,

tions, throughout the countries above-mentioned, he finds to be the best collection ever yet discovered; and though but a few, selected from the many different kinds that attend the waters in the course of the season of fly-fishing, yet they are all that are necessary for the different months, weeks, days, and hours throughout the year, for this kind of angling.—An account of their seasons; how to mix and preserve the different colours, and to prepare the feathers for use, with a receipt for dyeing them and the other materials the completest yellow; a list of night-flies, the materials they are made of, and how to make and use each.—Instructions to the young sportsman for preparing his rod, line, and flies, previous to his beginning to angle, and for throwing the line and managing it when in the water, with many interesting observations.—Natural fly-fishing; the best flies for that purpose; how to use them, &c.; with remarks on the winds and weather most favourable to the sportsman; and some refutations of false notions in these matters.

INTRODUCTORY OBSERVATIONS.

I SHALL here remark, that this ingenious and delightful part of angling is, in every respect, superior to all the rest put together; it is the nicest, cleanest, and most enlivening that can be; giving no trouble in baiting the hook, which occasions dirty fingers, and thereby renders the sport rather unpleasant to persons of *nice* ideas. The exercise it requires is gentle and pleasing, and the angler, not confined to any one part of the river or other water, but moving from stream to stream and other places, is very agreeably surprised at the manner in which the fish take the flies, and by seeing their surprise upon finding their mistake immediately on being hooked. The length of the line too adds greatly to the diversion, by playing and tiring them till you bring them in; and upon the whole it adds not a little to the health and vigour of the body.

OF SALMON FLIES.

Thoſe for the ſpring ſeaſon muſt be made much larger, but not ſo gaudy as are uſed in ſummer, viz. 1ſt, Let the hook be No. 1.; the feather for the wings, the darkiſh brown ſpeckled part of a bittern's wing ſtripped off from the ſtem; the mixture for the body, the reddiſh brown part of hare's fur, and deep copper-coloured mohair; the tail forked, with two ſingle ſtrips of the ſame feather as the wings; a bittern's hackle over the body for legs; and the head the ſame colour as the body.

How to make this fly.

Take three lengths of good ſtrong ſilk-worm-gut properly twiſted together, and having your ſilk well waxed (which muſt be of a brown colour), whip it round your gut five or ſix times about an inch from the end, which will prevent

the ſhank of the hook from galling it; then take the hook, and put the end of the ſhank nearly to the top of the ſilk ſo whipt, for the gut to be on the inſide, and begin to whip the hook to it, but deſiſt when you have gone about half a dozen rounds; and having a proper quantity of feather ready for the wings, take and lay it on the back of the ſhank, (keeping it as cloſe together and as even as you can,) with the right ſide next the hook, and the but-end downwards, leaving the other end to be, when turned back again, full as long as the hook; then go on with your ſilk, and whip it round your feather, hook, and gut ſix or eight times, or ſufficient to make it faſt, and with a pair of fine ſciſſars cut away what remains of the but-end of the feather, taking care not to hurt the gut, which muſt be opened and twiſted round the ſhank of the hook, as you go on with the whipping, which is to be continued till it comes nearly oppoſite the point of the hook; but you muſt cut off the ends of the gut before they come quite ſo low down, if found to be too

long; next put on your ſtrips of feather for the fork or whiſks at the tail, with the fine points downwards, leaving them both exactly the ſame length, about an inch and half, and to ſtand open, and make two laps round with the ſilk; then take the hackle (which muſt be ready prepared by ſtripping off the downy part at top, and cutting the feather acroſs on each ſide near to the ſtem, about two or three tenths of an inch from the point, or by drawing the fibres back to prevent any of them from being bound down by the ſilk), and whip in the point of it two or three times round, leaving the largeſt end hanging downwards, and the right ſide uppermoſt, and make one lap round between it and the fork, and one below all round the bare hook tight and cloſe to the fork, and cut off the ſuperfluous ends of it if any remain in ſight; then wax your ſilk afreſh, and, having your ſtuff for the body well mixed and ready, twiſt it gently round the ſilk, leaving it fine next the hook, but gradually thickening upwards; make one lap below the fork, and one or two (as required)

quired) between that and the hackle, and work it gradually upwards till you come close up to the feather for the wings; if any of the fur remains on the silk, after you have thus formed the body, take it off, and wind your silk lightly a little upwards to be out of the way; then take the hackle by the end of the stem, and rib it neatly, lapping it thicker as you go on, till you bring it up to the wings, and there bring it two or three times round as close as possible; and if any of the fibres remain strip them off from the stem, and, unwinding the silk to its proper place, make two or three laps to fasten the hackle, and cut away what remains of the stem; then take the feather for the wings, which has lain back all this time, and turn it downwards towards the tail of the fly, and holding it down tightish with the rest between your finger and thumb, having all the parts of the hackle out of the way, whip it three or four times round with the silk just over the feather very tight, and then two laps close above it; wax the silk again, and take a small

bit of the ſtuff (the ſame as uſed for the body), and twiſt it round the ſilk; whip this two or three times round up to the end of the ſhank, bringing the ſilk neatly back again, ſo as to faſten by noofing it about three times, between the head and the wings; and here the operation finiſhes with completing the head of the fly, without ſo much as one faſtening or tying throughout the whole, except at the laſt; but all is done by continually whipping and putting in your materials, as above directed, which renders the flies more neat and complete than is practicable by any other method.

N. B. It muſt be obſerved, that though the fly be thus completely made, it remains to put it in natural order, by firſt holding back the wings, then with a needle ſtroking the hackle for the legs upwards, and placing them in good order; and if any irregular part remains in the body, pick it properly looſe, and draw it away with a pair of tweezers, or cut it off with your ſciſſars, according as you find it will leave the appearance moſt natural; if any ſuperfluous

perfluous hairs are ſeen among the legs, take them away alſo, letting the fork at the tail be as before obſerved, and placing the wings aright to ſtand ſloping towards the tail. The head being then nicely completed, the fly will be moſt natural and beautiful.

The wings of all ſuch large flies are beſt not divided, but to ſtand together on the back, as above deſcribed.

A ſecond ſort of Fly.

Let the hook be the ſame ſize as the former; the wings, the mottled feather of a peacock's wing, intermixed with that of any fine plain duſky red; the mixture for the body, the light brown hair or fur of a bear next the ſkin, ſable fur, and gold-colour mohair, gold twiſt, a large black cock's hackle, and a red one a little larger; and for the head, a bit of deep red mohair.

How to make this fly.

Proceed in the ſame manner as before deſcribed, until you come oppoſite the

point of the hook; then lay in the ends of your hackles and twiſt them together, the red one undermoſt, and the twiſt atop; and after whipping them there, make one lap below them; wax your ſilk afreſh, twiſt on the dubbing for the body, and go on as in the former caſe; next take the twiſt, and rib it up to the wings, each lap about two tenths of an inch from the other; then take the black hackle, and work that upwards between the laps of the twiſt, rather lower than the middle of each ſpace, and bring it twice round, cloſe together, at the top of the body, and bringing on the red hackle in the ſame manner, work it very neatly juſt above each lap of the black one, and finiſh it the ſame way, contriving to leave the twiſt juſt to ſhew itſelf between the hackles; and then complete your fly as before directed.

N. B. This fly may be forked, if thought proper, with two or three hairs of a ſquirrel.

A third ſort of fly.

For this fly alſo the hook muſt be No. 1; the wings, the blue feather of a hern, intermixed

intermixed with the ſpotted rediſh part of that of a mallard; for the body, lead coloured mohair, ſmall gold twiſt, a large white hackle dyed a deepiſh blue; a bit of the ſame feather as the wings for the tail; the head the ſame colour as the body; and your ſilk a lead colour.

How to make this fly.

Proceed in the ſame way as before, whipping in the point of the hackle a little before you come oppoſite the point of the hook, and go on a few laps; then taking the twiſt, and two ſtrips of each feather the ſame as the wings, whip in the ends of the twiſt and feathers together, letting the latter be topmoſt with the points downwards, and about a quarter of an inch in length, and cut away the other end of the feather; then twiſt on the mohair thin, work it up neat, and, having faſtened it as before directed, take the twiſt, make one lap with it cloſe below the feather for the tail, (that it may ſtand in

an oblique form together, and the points even,) then give one juſt above it, rib it neatly up alſo, and faſten that; next work the hackle between each lap of the twiſt, and go on as with the other two till you finiſh.

Theſe three flies are ſufficient to begin the ſeaſon with, though indeed they will kill fiſh at all times of it; but as the ſpring and warm weather advances, they muſt be dreſſed more gaudy in proportion; and in the height of ſummer, particularly if the water be fine, muſt be adorned with the moſt glittering plumage (gold, ſilver, and ſilks) that can be procured; as the ſummer declines, reduce the gaudineſs of your flies gradually in the ſame proportion, till you come down to theſe three again, which continue till the Salmon fiſhing goes out of ſeaſon.

It muſt be obſerved, that the Salmon hooks for the ſummer fiſhing ſhould be about No. 3, and ſtrong made; and if the ſhanks are too long, there muſt be ſome taken off, according to the length

and

and ſize of the fly you intend to make; and that your feathers muſt be intermixed with different gaudy ſhades, ſuch as golden and other pheaſant's, parrot's, peacock's, and in ſhort, of all other birds that are fit for the purpoſe, either foreign or domeſtic; and others dyed, including hackles of various colours, as well as your mohair and other ſtuff for the body; but to render theſe flies more light in clear water, let the body be made quite thin, of ſilk of a ſuitable colour (for it muſt always be ſuited to the fly you make); a bit of a gaudy feather at the tail, with narrow gold or ſilver plating according as it matches, inſtead of twiſt; and the hackle for legs, the blue ſpotted feather from a jay's wing (the other part of it being ſtript away) worked up, only from about half way below the wings, but pretty thick under them. I have here mentioned this hackle in particular, becauſe it is very excellent; but your hackles muſt always be ſuited to the ſhades of your other materials. Further obſerve, that before you begin the head of the fly, you ſhould take two gaudy

ſtrips

ſtrips of feather, and lay one on each ſide the ſhoulders, to ſtand ſomething longer than the other feathers, and whip them there, then finiſh the head; and the fly, when thus placed in proper order, will appear very beautiful. For the better convenience of making theſe large flies, you ſhould be provided with a very ſmall vice, for the purpoſe of holding the hook, that you may have both hands at liberty to put in your materials, which will enable you to dreſs the flies more neatly as well as more perfectly.

The ſame ſort of flies are uſed for Salmon-trout, and other fiſh of the Salmon kind, only ſmaller, the hooks being No. 4 or 5; though they will often take the common Trout flies.

OF FLIES FOR TROUT, GRAYLING AND OTHER FISH.

The following eight I ſhall ſet down as ſtandards, becauſe the ſeven firſt will kill fiſh at all times of the ſeaſon, and the eighth from about the middle of April.

1ſt, *The*

1ſt, *The Black Hackle.*

The wings are the light part of a feather from a Stare or Starling's wing, ſtript off from the ſtem; the body, black dog's fur, and a black cock's hackle over it; and is made thus.—Take a good even ſilk-worm-gut, a hook No. 5, or a ſingle C. (ſo called in Ireland) and proceed as with the Salmon flies, always obſerving to keep the feathers cloſe together, even, and level at the points, laying it on (as before obſerved) with the wrong ſide uppermoſt; when you come to uſe the fur for the body, lay it on very thin and neat, and work the hackle (which muſt be ſuited in ſize) neatly over it, till it comes up to the wings; there bring it twice or thrice round; but if there is too much, ſtrip it off, whip the ſtem faſt, and, cutting away the end that remains, take a needle or pin, and divide the feathers for the wings into two parts as equal as poſſible, and bring back that part neareſt you by turning it downwards, and holding it a little tight and ſmooth;

ſmooth; give it two or three laps juſt over the feather, as near the top of it as you can, ſo that the ſilk may not ſlip off, keeping all the parts of the hackle downwards, out of the way; then take the other part, bring it down in the ſame manner, and, holding all between your thumb and finger, taking care that no part of the wings get down too low on the ſides, whip them both over together, the ſame as the firſt, very tight, give two laps above them, and faſten by nooſing your ſilk three times, which finiſhes the ſhoulders and head of this ſized fly, without any other addition; after this is done, take your needle and put the hackle and all in order, with the wings ſloping towards the tail. This way of parting the wings renders them more natural than any can be effected in any other way; for thoſe that are made to ſtand upright, or nearly ſo, have a bad tendency, inaſmuch as they affright inſtead of enticing the fiſh, by the unnatural ſtreak they make along the water when moved, which they ſhould never do; and

as

as you cannot keep the artificial flies to ſit on the ſurface of the water as ſome of the natural ones do, it is ſuppoſed that they are taken for thoſe that are driven under by the current, which makes the fiſh more eager in taking them for fear they ſhould recover and get away; and I have often remarked, that when there have been hundreds of flies upon the water, I have not perceived any fiſh riſe at them, yet they have taken mine very freely.

N. B. This fly muſt always be the end fly, or ſtretcher, as it is termed by moſt fly-fiſhers.

2d, *The Wren's tail*

Has no wings; the body, ſable fur, a little mohair of a gold colour, with a feather from the tail of a Wren; and is thus made.—Let the hook be No. 5 or 6, with a ſhort ſhank, and whipt to the gut till your ſilk be oppoſite the point of the hook; then take the feather, (being cut acroſs near the point a little way on each

ſide

ſide near the ſtem,) and whip in the point of it, letting the reſt hang downwards, with the right ſight of the feather uppermoſt, and giving one or two laps with the ſilk below it; twiſt on your ſtuff for the body very thin, and, making one lap below the feather, work it up very neatly, leaving it a little thicker at the ſhoulders; then taking the feather, bring it up neatly, (as a hackle,) lapping it very thin at the beginning, but gradually thicker as you go on, till you get up to the top of the body, and there bring it two or three times round cloſe together; then whip it faſt, cut away the end of the ſtem, and faſten off as before, as near as you well can to the end of the ſhank; after which, put the fly in order, by opening the fibres, &c. with your needle.

N. B. If at any time one of theſe feathers is not found ſufficient, you muſt uſe two of them, lapping in the point of one as you go down about the middle of the hook, and the other as before, and work it up properly a little paſt the firſt; then take that, and, binding the other neatly

with it, finiſh your fly.—You may ſometimes uſe this fly with the fibres of the feather cut ſhort from the tail upwards, to look a little rough, till you come to the part where it ſtands thick at top, there cut juſt the ends only, and let it ſtand all round alike :—both theſe ways are very good ones. *This is to be uſed either as ſtretcher or dropper.*

3d, *The Grouſe Hackle.*

This has no wings; the mixture for the body is dark olive, duſky yellow, and a little gold-coloured mohair; a fine mottled Grouſe's feather of a reddiſh brown, running a little duſky towards the but-end of the ſtem, with the downy part (if any) taken away as beforementioned of other hackle feathers. It is made in the ſame way as the Wren's tail, and the ſame ſized hook, only the point of the feather is faſtened about the middle of the length of the body, as you go down in whipping on the hook; but in bringing forward the body, lap it thin and neat, though

though a little roughiſh, and, paſſing the hackle, contrive to let it be a little more ſo to the top; then taking the hackle by the end of the ſtem, lap it pretty cloſe, but thicker where you end, and ſo finiſh as before, taking care that the fibres of the feather you chooſe be not too long, but ſo that they would only reach about half the length of the fly, or a little more, if laid down: to put it in good order, open every fibre with your needle, and let it ſtand well.—*This is either ſtretcher or dropper.*

4th, *The ſmoky-dun Hackle*

Has no wings; the body, a little lead-coloured mohair or ſilk, with a ſmoky-dun cock's hackle. It is made by faſtening the hackle at the bottom, where you finiſh, whipping on the hook No. 5; then with a bit of the mohair make the body very thin all the way up, or with your ſilk only, being of a lead-colour, eſpecially in the hot months; and finiſh by bringing the hackle, well ſuited to the ſize of your hook, very neatly over it, leaving it thicker at top. What remains to be done, has been

been ſeveral times before explained.—*It may be fiſhed with either as ſtretcher or dropper.*

No. 5. *The Brown Rail.*

The wings are of a feather from a partridge's tail (not the red); the body ſable fur and gold-coloured mohair. In making it, proceed in the ſame way as with the *black hackle*; only, as there is *no hackle*, make the body thin and neat, till you come near the wings, and there lap it pretty thick; then having finiſhed the wings, and faſtened off, pick out a little of the fur and mohair for the feet, and cut it to be as natural as may be, not to be too long, and letting the other part of the body be without any ſuperfluous hairs from the mohair or fur; then placing the wings aright, the fly is complete.—In ſummer, wing with a feather from the wing of a rail. *This fly may be either ſtretcher or dropper.*

No. 6. & 7. *The Hare's Ear.*

The wings are the light part of a feather from a ſtare's wing; the body, the dark fur from a hare's ear; and it is made in the ſame manner as the *brown rail.*

N. B. Where the ſtreams are deep, the ſame body winged with a feather from a rail's wing, and a red hackle, is very killing, particularly in the ſummer ſeaſon. *Theſe are uſed chiefly as drop flies.*

No. 8. *The Red Hackle, from about the middle of April.*

The wings, ſtare; body, light red mohair and a red cock's hackle; and it is made exactly in the ſame way as the *black hackle.—Always a dropper.*

The reſt, to complete this collection, are the following.

No. 1. *The Dark Claret.*

This fly has four wings; the under ones are the light feather from a ſtare's wing, and

and the upper ones that of a partridge's tail; the body, any dark claret proper for fly-making, and the darkiſh fur of a hare's ear. In making it, (having, prior to putting on the wings, laid ready a ſufficient quantity of the partridge's tail, according to judgment, with that of the ſtare's atop of it, the points a very little ſhorter than the other,) put on the wings as before directed, keeping them cloſe and ſmooth, with the ſtare's feather uppermoſt; then go on, and finiſh in the very ſame way as the *brown rail*, taking care to divide both feathers equally, ſo that the ſtare's may be undermoſt in each wing when turned back and finiſhed. It is in ſeaſon from the latter end of February to about a week in April, and is the firſt fly that begins the diverſion of fly-fiſhing.—Some call it a red fly, and make it ſo; but they are miſtaken:—*it is beſt as a dropper, when you fiſh with two or more flies.*

No. 2. *The Dark or Blow Fox.*

The wings are ſtare, as before; the body, fox's fur from the ſhoulder next

the ſkin, ſome from the black tail of a Rabbit, with a little pale ſtraw-coloured mohair; the fork at the tail, the ends of two fine hairs that grow next the ſkin of a monkey, where the outer ends are yellowiſh; take them out ſo gently as not to break them, and you will find them to be nearly of a fine aſh-colour; nothing can match this fly for the purpoſe intended. In making it, you proceed as with the *dark claret*, till you come low enough to put in the fork; then, making one lap below it, cut away the yellow ends, bring up the body, and finiſh the ſame way; picking out a little of the ſtuff for the legs, and leaving them as natural as poſſible, not to be too long; and if the fork be left awkwardly long, cut it according to judgment, and let it ſtand in a proper form and open.—It is in ſeaſon from the latter end of February till about the middle of April, either as ſtretcher or dropper.

N. B. Theſe two flies come in again about the latter end of September, and continue to the end of the ſeaſon.

No. 3. *The Dun Fox.*

The wings and fork the ſame as for that laſt deſcribed; the body, the fur of a fox between the throat and ſhoulder next the ſkin, and braſs-coloured mohair. It is made in the ſame manner as the *dark fox.*—In ſeaſon all March, and again in September, either as ſtretcher or dropper.

No. 4. *The Aſh Fox.*

The wings and fork the ſame as the above foxes; the body, fox's fur from the throat next the ſkin, and pale ſtraw-coloured mohair.—In ſeaſon all April, either as dropper or ſtretcher.

No. 5. *The Light Fox.*

The wings and fork the ſame as the other foxes; the body, light camel's hair, and the lighteſt ſtraw-coloured mohair that

can be got. This is made in the ſame way as the three laſt above deſcribed. It comes in ſeaſon the latter end of April, continues all ſummer, and is uſed as ſtretcher or dropper.

N. B. Though I have deſcribed theſe flies in rotation as four different ones, yet I am perſuaded that they are one and the ſame fly; only, as the ſpring and ſummer advances, it changes its colour accordingly, to the exactneſs that I have ſtated; though ſome ſooner than others, according as they come ſooner or later in ſucceſſion to the perfection of a fly.

No. 6. *The Brown Fly, Dun Drake, or Brown Caughlan.*

The wings, partridge's tail; the body, light brown bear's fur, high coloured yellow mohair, hare's fur from the face, forked with two ſtrips of a dark mallard's feather, and a partridge's hackle. The method of making this fly is as before deſcribed; only the ſmall fine partridge's feather, for the hackle or legs, muſt be lapped

lapped two or three times round, and no more, under the but of the wings. It is in ſeaſon from about the middle of March to the end of April.

The dark claret, the dark fox, and this fly, are ſometimes on the water at the ſame time; but *the claret* is the firſt in the day; the fox next; and the brown one follows.—The clarets and the foxes are moſt plentiful in cold dark days, and the browns in warm and gloomy ones; it ſhould indeed always be obſerved, that the fly that comes firſt, according to the month, is generally the firſt to be uſed in the day: you may ſee the others come down the water in order, according to their time, and obſerve the fiſh leave off taking the former ones for the ſake of the latter; and thus they continue their ſucceſſion through their ſeveral days, weeks, and months.

No. 7. *The Green-Tail Fly.*

The wings are from a feather out of a pheaſant's wing, which has a fine ſhade

that exhibits the very resemblance of those of the real fly; the body, the black part of hare's fur, a brown strip of a feather from a peacock's tail, and a very small bit of a green one with a grizzle cock's hackle; and it is only made differently from the foregoing ones, by whipping in the ends of the peacock's feathers both together at bottom, lapping the green one only once round below the silk; then, sloping it a little upwards, fasten it, and cut away what remains, leaving it to be about as large as the head of a largish pin; twist the fur on your silk, lap it a little thinnish up to the feather for the wings, and there fasten in the point of the hackle; then, with the brown peacock that was fastened below, rib it all the way up, and fasten that; now let the hackle be lapped twice round, fastened, and what remains cut away; then finish the wings, (taking care that no other part be tied in with them,) and fasten off.

This fly is but of short duration, being only in season from about the middle of April to near the end of the month. They are

are plentiful in warm days; but in cold ones there are very few, if any, on the water; in which case the former flies should be used.

No. 8. *The Spider-Fly*

Has no wings; the body, lead-coloured silk, a fine small black cock's hackle, and a feather of a woodcock from under the but-end of his wings. It is made thus: when you have got about a quarter of the way down in whipping on the hook, put in the points of the woodcock's feather, (having it properly prepared as before directed,) and fasten it with the silk, going on till you come nearly opposite the point of the hook; there, with your silk (which must be of a lead-colour, and not waxed) begin to form the body, leaving it pretty thick at the tail, and to go thinner upwards, like the ant: when you come near to where the feather is fastened, put in the point of the black hackle, and, lapping up your silk a little to be out of the way, take

take the black hackle, and lap it two or three times round close to where the other feather is tied in; if any more fibres remain, strip them off and fasten with two laps, and, passing the first feather put in, lap your silk very thin up to nearly the top of the shank, and wax it; then taking the woodcock's feather, work it round pretty thick up to where you fasten off, and so finish.—This fly is in season from about a week in April till a week or ten days in May, and is best as a dropper. They appear most in bright and warm days, when you may see them come out of beds of sand by the water; but they disappear when the days become cold and stormy.

No. 9. *The Yellow Cadew, or May-Fly.*

The wings are a grey spotted feather of a mallard dyed yellow; the body, a little fine ram's wool dyed the same colour as the wings, with a dark bittern's hackle for the legs; two hairs from a fitch's tail for the fork; and a bit of a brown feather

of

of a peacock's tail for the head. This is a large fly, and ſhould be made on a hook No. 4. or a large No. 5. and requires no further inſtructions for making it than what have been before given; only be careful to rib it neatly with the hackle, and to finiſh the head in the ſame way as that of the Salmon-fly. It is in ſeaſon from about the middle of May to the middle of June, and always a ſtretcher.

N. B. The beſt dye for all yellow materials for artificial flies, is the bark from the branches of a crab-tree, taken in the ſpring when the ſap is up. Before you uſe it, put any quantity that you want into a veſſel, juſt cover it with a mixture of one half hard water and the other half urine, and let it ſtand twenty-four hours; then put it into a proper veſſel, with ſome alum, according to judgment, ſo that it ſimmer over a ſlow fire about two hours; ſtir up all well together, and take out the bark; then put in your feathers and other materials, and ſtir them round till the liquor juſt begins to boil; then take them out, and inſtantly throw them into ſome hard

hard cold water with a little alum diſſolved in it, waſh them out, and dry them for uſe.—You may make the ſhades of this colour vary, by diſſolving more or leſs of the bark, according to judgment, or letting the materials be in the dye a longer or ſhorter time.

No. 10. *The Grey Drake, or Grey Coughlan.*

The males and females of theſe flies differ much; the wings of the former are the grey ſpotted part of a feather of a mallard mixed with that of a widgeon; the body, light camel's hair, and a dark bittern's hackle; the fork has three fangs, and are the hairs from a fitch's tail; and the head, a bit of a brown peacock's feather from the tail.—The wings of the latter are the grey mallard only; the body, part of a fine oaten ſtraw, and a cuckoo-cock's hackle.—Theſe are large flies, and are beſt made on a large No. 5. hook. In making the male, let the three hairs for the fork be near an inch and half

half long, and to ſtand open; after carrying up the camel's hair, beginning with it rougher at bottom, and leaving it ſmoother towards the wings, take the bittern's hackle, and rib it very thick towards the tail, leaving the body clear towards the wings. The fork of the female is the ſame as that of the male; the ſtraw muſt be whipt in at bottom, lapped neatly up to the wings, and ribbed with the cuckoo hackle, in the ſame way as that of the male fly; ſo finiſh both, as directed in the foregoing ones. They are in ſeaſon with the yellow fly, only not ſo forward by a few days: the yellows are on the water firſt in the day; but when the grey ones appear, the fiſh leave the former and take the latter: while theſe two ſorts of flies continue, they are excellent indeed; for they may be termed the fiſhes' delight; but I look upon the female of the greys to be much more killing than the male, which is to be accounted for by their frequenting the water in much greater numbers for the purpoſe of caſting their feed therein, and that theſe eggs or feed may render them

more

more tasteful to the fish, particularly before they drop them.

After these flies disappear the Trouts become very shy for some time; so that most *anglers* are at a loss what flies to use after the greys; but I can inform them, that the *Wren's Tail and Grouse Hackle*, two of the standards before mentioned, are flies which the fish will not refuse even when the former ones are on the water in the height of their perfection; neither will they reject the other standards.

No. 11. *The Grizzle Hackle.*

This fly follows the grey ones, and is the best, except the standards, during its season; it has no wings; the body, the brown part of a feather from the tail of a peacock, dark red silk, and a dark grizzled cock's hackle. It is made in this manner: in whipping on the hook, lap in the point of the hackle when you have gone about half way; and at bottom do the same by the peacock's feather and the silk, (which must not be too fine nor waxed,)

waxed,) and lap the other ſilk very thin back again ready to faſten; then take the feather, and, making one lap cloſe to another, paſs the hackle, carry it up near to the end of the ſhank, and faſten it; then with the ſilk rib it at a ſmall equal diſtance as high up as the other, and faſten that; laſtly, begin to lap the hackle, and as you go up lap it thicker, and three times round at top, and ſo finiſh. It is in ſeaſon from the beginning to the end of June, and may be fiſhed with as a dropper with either of the two ſtandards.

No. 12. *The Golden Sooty.*

The wings ſtare; the body any very dark brown reſembling a bright ſoot colour, mixed with a little gold-coloured mohair. This fly is made without a hackle in the ſame way as the *brown rail*, and is in ſeaſon from the beginning of June to the middle of September, either as ſtretcher or dropper.

No. 13.

No. 13. *The Blue Blow.*

This is a very ſmall fly, and appears in the water like a ſmall lump of ſoot; it muſt therefore be made on a ſmall hook with a ſhort ſhank: the wings are the feather of a tomtit's tail; the body, the fur of a mole, with pale copper-coloured mohair, and forked with monkey, the ſame as the fox flies. It is made the ſame way too, only ſo very ſmall, and is in ſeaſon the whole ſummer, but always a dropper. They are taken very freely at times, particularly when the water is fine and low.

No. 14. *The Green Caterpillar*

Has no wings; the body, one (or more if neceſſary) of the green branches from the ſtem of the feather of a peacock's tail, gold or ſilver narrow plating; and a red or black cock's hackle for legs. It is made by whipping the ends of all three together at bottom, a little lower down the hook than common: juſt as you have finiſhed

finiſhed whipping it on, and lapping the ſilk neatly back again to the top, leave it there to faſten with; and, taking the plating, lap it neatly cloſe together all the way up; then do the ſame with the peacock's feather, only be ſure to let the plating appear between every lap of it, and to leave the body the ſame thickneſs from tail to head; laſtly, lap the hackle thinly over all, but very regularly, to the top, and faſten off.

N. B. When you plate with gold, uſe a red hackle; when with ſilver, a black one; or you may ſometimes reverſe them, by way of experiment.

No. 15. *The Black Caterpillar.*

This is made in the ſame manner as the Green, only the brown part of the peacock's feather inſtead of the green, and a black hackle. For both theſe Caterpillars the fibres of the hackle ſhould be ſhort. They are in ſeaſon in the hot months, and are chiefly uſed as droppers.

They may alſo be made plain, without any plating.

No. 16. *The Lochaber.*

This is a fly that is not noticed in England, and but by few in Scotland and Ireland, though it will kill fiſh exceedingly well, in its ſeaſon, on all waters in the three kingdoms. It is made of a mottled grouſe's feather, either of a bright ſhining brown, a reddiſh brown, or of a duſky colour, (for it differs exactly to theſe ſhades), and with part of the ſame ſilk that you uſe to whip on the hook, which muſt be either orange or yellow, as beſt ſuits the feather which is uſed. Before you begin to make this fly chooſe a feather with the fibres a trifle longer than the hook you intend to uſe in making it; then ſtrip away the ſhort or downy part at top, and draw back the fibres near the point, leaving juſt enough for lapping in; then taking your ſilk, which muſt be waxed but a little way, juſt ſufficient

to faſten on your hook, whip it down to nearly oppoſite the point, and there lap in the point of the feather, with the right ſide outwards, and the other end towards the ſhank of the hook; then with the ſilk, without any wax on it, make from three or four to ſix laps round below the feather, according to the ſize of the fly, ſo that it may ſhow; and, bringing the ſilk neatly back again, continue lapping it ſo (paſſing the feather) to the top, and there wax it ready for faſtening; then taking the feather by the end of the ſtem, (keeping the inſide of it always next the hook,) begin to lap it round pretty cloſe, but thicker at top, keeping the fibres of one lap from being entangled or tied down by another; then faſten down the ſtem cloſe to the feather, by lapping it round with the ſilk two or three times; cut away what remains of it, and then faſten and cut off the ſilk.

It now remains to put the fly in natural order; which is done, by taking all the feather that will ſtand properly together

on the back of the hook for wings, and the reſt ſtroked down with your thumb and finger to be underneath, and cut pretty ſhort for the legs, but in a ſloping form, to be longeſt at top, and ſhort towards the tail, letting the wings ſtand ſloping downwards.

It is to be fiſhed for in the months of July, Auguſt, and part of September, either as ſtretcher or dropper.

N. B. When you come to put or ſtroke the feather on the back to ſtand cloſe and ſloping as before obſerved, if you perceive any ſuperfluous fibre among it, or that does not properly belong to that part, pick it out; and if found proper to add to the legs, cut it ſhort accordingly; otherwiſe cut it off.

No. 27. *The Green Bank Fly.*

The wings ſtare; the body, a kind of mellow green mohair, with a little yellow, and a fine pale red hackle. In making it, lap in the point of the hackle

at

at bottom, having ſtripped off the whole of one ſide of the fibres; then twiſt the ſtuff for the body thin and even on the ſilk, which ſhould be green, and carry it up very neatly to the feather for the wings, for it is a very delicate fly; then with the hackle rib it thinly all the way up, and, dividing the wings, finiſh as often before directed. It is chiefly to be fiſhed with in the evenings of warm days, either as ſtretcher or dropper.

No. 18. *The Cream Camel.*

The wings, the yellow part of a feather of an owl, or a red thruſh's wing; the body, deepiſh cream-coloured camel's hair, or fine Spaniſh wool, and gold-coloured mohair; the body muſt be made neat, and the ſtuff picked out for legs as for ſome of the former flies. It is to be fiſhed with early in warm ſummer mornings, and in the evenings, as the *Green Bank-Fly.*

No. 19. *The Red Spinner.*

The wings are of the grayiſh feather of a drake, tinged with a kind of reddiſh yellow, which is not to be found on every drake; the body, gold twiſt, with a red hackle over it. In making it, whip in the ends of the twiſt and hackle together at bottom, and lap your ſilk back again up to the feather for the wings; then take the twiſt, and lap it cloſe all the way up as high as the ſilk, and faſten it, cutting away what remains of the twiſt; with the hackle rib it neatly till you come up to the wings, and there lap it twice or thrice round; then faſten, and, dividing the wings, finiſh the fly. This is chiefly an evening fly, in the month of July only; and is beſt uſed as a dropper.

It is taken very eagerly by the *Chub.*

No. 20. *The Ant Flies.*

Of theſe there are four ſorts; viz. the large red, and the large black, and a ſmaller

ſmaller ſort of the ſame kinds and colours.

The wings of the *red* are the feather of a ſtare's wing; the body, mohair of an amber colour with a red cock's hackle. In making it, let the body be large at the tail, and ſmall towards the wings, as natural as poſſible to the reſemblance of the *ant*, (for all theſe, in their ſeaſons, from the real *ants* become flies, having wings, and fly about, frequenting the waters); with a ſmall fibred hackle twice round cloſe to the wings; and ſo finiſh as in former caſes.

The *black* ones have wings of the lighteſt ſky-blue feather that can be procured, with the ſtrongeſt gloſs; the body, black oſtrich feather, with a black hackle twice round to ſuit in ſize, the ſame as the former; and it is finiſhed exactly in the ſame way. Theſe flies are but of ſhort duration; the large ones being in ſeaſon only from about the middle of June to the twenty-fifth; the ſmall ones from the beginning to about the middle of Auguſt.

They are afternoon flies, being chiefly on the water from a little after twelve till four, and ſometimes later; and are beſt fiſhed with as droppers, with one of the ſtandards as a ſtretcher.

No. 21. *The Pale Blue Fly.*

The wings, the lighteſt blue feather of a ſea-ſwallow; the body, the blueſt part of the fur of a fox, mixed with a very little yellow mohair, ſtraw-coloured ſilk, and a fine pale-blue hackle. It is made upon a hook about No. 6. or 7.; and in making it, lap in the ends of a piece of the ſilk and hackle together; then twiſting the fur round the waxed ſilk, as uſual, work it neatly up to the feather faſtened in above for the wings, and give a lap or two; with the ſilk below, which ſhould be a little open, without wax, rib it at a middling diſtance from one another all the way up, and faſten that the ſame way; then bringing the hackle neatly up over

all,

all, faſten it, divide the wings, and finiſh.

N. B. This is a good killing fly, particularly for Graylings, which at this time of the year are very ſportive, and in great perfection. This fly is in ſeaſon from the beginning of Auguſt till near Michaelmas, either as a ſtretcher or dropper.

No. 22. *The Hare's Ear and Yellow.*

The wings ſtare; the body, the dark fur of a hare's ear, mixed with a little yellow mohair. It is made in the ſame form and ſize as that before deſcribed in the former part of No. 6. in the Standards, and is in ſeaſon in September; moſtly uſed as a dropper.

Theſe two laſt-mentioned flies, with the *Dun Fox*, (which, as before obſerved, comes in again in this month) continue till the *Dark Fox* and *Dark Claret* come in again, which is in October; only obſerve, from the beginning of the month to about the tenth, to let the mohair be green

green for the Dark Fox, inſtead of ſtraw-colour; and after that time as before, to the end of the ſeaſon, which in ſome countries continues till ſome time in November, if the weather be moderate and without froſt.

It ſhould be always remembered to vary the ſize of the hook, according as you intend to make your fly either large or ſmall, or according to the kind of fiſh you intend to angle for. Before you begin to make any fly, be ſure to have the feather for the wings (if a winged fly) ready ſtripped from the ſtem, juſt a proper quantity, according to judgment (for too much is as bad as too little); a proportionate quantity of your ſtuff for the body well mixed (for you ſhould keep your colours by you properly mixed to a right ſhade, never uſing the whole of any one mixture till you mix again; by which means, when you have once obtained the right ſhades in all your different mixtures, you may always preſerve them); the hackles prepared, as often before obſerved;

ed; and all materials put ready at hand, with your ſilk to match in colour, and waxed; and when you come to make a fly, let the wings be proportioned in length to its ſize; and alſo the fibres of the hackle.

This I have thought proper here to repeat, juſt to remind the young fly-maker how he ought to proceed; and I ſhall now treat of the night-flies.

OF NIGHT FLIES, OR LARGE MOTHS.

As many a ſportſman is ſo paſſionately fond of angling as to be induced to purſue the ſport by night, in which he will be often more ſucceſsful than in the day-time, I will here give him an account of the beſt flies for the purpoſe; which are as follow:

1ſt. *The Mealy White.*

The wings, the ſoft mealy feathers of a white owl; the body, the white ſoft fur of a rabbit, with a ſoft downy white hackle. In making it, take the feathers (for there muſt be two, both alike, which muſt be broadiſh at the points, and large enough

enough to form a pair of good full wings), and lap them in, as you would the ſtript feather for the wings of other flies, and at the bottom faſten in the point of the hackle; then, twiſting the fur on the ſilk, make the body as thick as a very large ſtraw, till you come near the wings; there lap it thicker, and, bringing up the hackle thinly, lap it twice or thrice round at top, and divide the wings ſo, that you have the whole of each feather for the ſeparate wings; and finiſh as you would other flies that have their wings divided. Obſerve, that the hooks ſhould be about No. 4. It is to be fiſhed with always as a ſtretcher, without any other fly on the line.

2d. *The Mealy Cream.*

There are feathers on a yellow owl of a deep cream-colour; of theſe make the wings; the body, of ſoft fur of the ſame colour, and a very pale yellow hackle. It is made on the ſame-ſized hook, and finiſhed and fiſhed with the ſame way as the former.

3d. *The*

3d. *The Mealy Brown.*

The wings are the ſoft brown feathers of an owl; the body, the fine lightiſh brown fur of a hare or rabbit, which is made long, about the ſame thickneſs as the other two, with a light brown bittern's hackle twice round under the wings; and is finiſhed and fiſhed with the ſame way; but the two firſt I conſider as the beſt. They are moſt killing in warm gloomy nights after hot days; and when you angle this way, let out your line to be but a little longer than the rod. You may hear the fiſh riſe as in the day-time, and feel them when they take.

It now remains to give ſome inſtructions to the young ſportſman for preparing his rod, line, and flies, previous to his beginning to angle; and alſo for throwing the line and managing it when in the water;

water; which will be attended with ſome few obſervations.

The rods for fly-fiſhing have been deſcribed before, in treating of the Salmon and Trout. When you have fixed your rod properly, with your winch or reel thereon, and brought your line from it through the rings of the rod, loop on to it at the ſtrongeſt end your foot-length, which ſhould be about three yards and a half long, made of good ſtrong ſingle ſilk-worm-gut, well tied and the knots neatly whipped, running a very little finer towards the bottom end, at which place there muſt be a neat whipped loop alſo; then take your firſt fly or ſtretcher, which ſhould be made to one or two (if long, two or three) lengths of good level gut; if ſhort, full as fine, or a little finer than the bottom link of your foot length, tied and whipped neatly together, and looped nicely at the end alſo; loop this to the end of your gut-length; and then your drop-fly, juſt above a knot, where it is whipped, about a yard or more

from

from the end-fly, to hang from the line not more than two or three inches. If you choose to fish with more, keep them all about the same distance; and observe, if your droppers be larger, or even as large as your stretcher, you will not be able to throw a good line; but a beginner should never use more than one fly.

When thus prepared, let out the line about half as long again as the rod; and holding that properly in one hand, and the line near to the fly in the other, give your rod a motion from right to left, and as you move the rod backwards in order to throw out the line, let go the line out of your hand at the same time, and try several throws at this length; then let out more line, and try that, still using more and more, till you can manage any length needful; but about nine yards is quite sufficient for any one to practise with; and observe, that in raising your line in order to throw it in again, you should wave your rod a little round your head, and not bring it directly backwards; nor must

muſt you return the line too ſoon, or until it has gone its length behind you, or you will certainly whip off your end-fly. There is a great art in making your line fall light on the water, and ſhowing the flies well to the fiſh. The beſt way I can direct is, that when you have thrown out your line, contriving to let it and the flies fall as lightly and naturally as poſſible, you ſhould raiſe your rod gently and by degrees (ſometimes with a kind of gentle trembling hand as it were); which will bring the flies on a little towards you, ſtill letting them go down with the ſtream; but never draw them againſt it, for it is unnatural; and before the line comes too near you, throw out again. When you ſee a fiſh riſe at the natural fly, throw out about a yard above him, but not directly over his head, and let your fly or flies move gently towards him, which will ſhew it him in more natural form, and will tempt him the more to take it. Experience and obſervation alone, however, can make an angler a complete

adept in the art, ſo as to be able to throw his fly behind buſhes and trees, into holes, under banks and other places, as mentioned of the Trout's haunts, and where in general the beſt fiſh are found.

In the ſummer time, even when the water is quite low and fine, no wind ſtirring, the ſun ſhining in its greateſt luſtre, and in the hotteſt part of the day, you may take fiſh (though very few anglers will believe it) with a ſmall *Wren's Tail*, *Grouſe*, *Smoky Dun*, and *Black Hackles*; fiſhing ſtraight down the water by the ſides of ſtreams and of banks, keeping out of ſight, with as long a line as you can throw nicely, having your foot-length very fine. You may often ſee them with their fins and even their backs above water, at which time they will ſnap eagerly at theſe flies; and though, upon hooking one of them, the reſt will fly off, yet after taking it, if you will but retire for a little while, you may be at them again, for they will ſoon be compoſed and return; and thus for two or three

 times.

times. When you have quite tired them out in one place, however, you muſt endeavour to find out another.

At the time of year when the fiſh retire to the deeps, they will often take very well in ſtill water, where there is a proper bottom for them, provided the wind blows ſtrong to make a good curl, but particularly if it blows acroſs the water, fiſhing with the wind in your favour (that is, on your back), not only for the advantage of throwing the line, but becauſe the fiſh will be on that ſide waiting for flies that are blown from the graſs and bank into the water. Throw near to the bank next you, keeping out of ſight.

When you go out a fly-fiſhing, you ſhould not forget to have with you a little of all your different materials for fly-making; for the fiſhes are ſometimes ſo whimſical, that you may ſee them take inſignificant flies freely, which at other times they would not look at. When this is the caſe, catch one of ſuch flies, and

try how far art can imitate nature, by making one as nearly ſimilar as you can. You ſhould alſo be equipped with your fiſh-baſket and landing-net.

OF NATURAL FLY-FISHING.

THIS way of angling is chiefly adapted to warm weather, when the water is low and clear; and is beſt in ſmall rivers or brooks, where you can keep more out of ſight than you can near large waters, that are not ſo much ſheltered. You muſt have a long rod, as before deſcribed for artificial-fly fiſhing; your line fine for nearly the whole length of it, with a fine ſhort-ſhanked hook, in ſize proportioned to your baits, the principal of which are as follow:

1ſt, *The Blue-Bottle, and large Houſe-Fly.*

When you bait with the former of theſe, put the hook in a little below the

head, and let the point and barb come out about the middle of the body, or nearly, ſo that it may ſtand properly on the back of the hook. When you uſe the latter, put two of them on the ſame way, only carry the firſt nearly up to the top of the ſhank, and let the head of the other lie about the middle of the former, by its ſide. The method of procuring theſe flies muſt be left to your own judgment.

2d, *The Wood-Fly.*

Of theſe there are two ſorts, the one a darkiſh gray, and the other black; but the gray ones are the beſt. Bait your hook as before directed, with either one or two of theſe flies; which are to be found in woods, parks, groves, narrow lanes, &c. and are to be procured by carrying out a piece of freſh lights or liver, and laying it down in any little open place between trees and buſhes where you find there are any of theſe flies. Being provided with a large handful of long

fern, when there are a ſufficient number collected about the lights, ſtrike them with it ſmartly ſeveral times, which will ſtun them; then take them up quickly before they recover, and put them into a horn with a wooden bottom, ſome ſmall holes bored in it nearly from one end to the other (to give them air), and a cork to fit the upper end, which ſhould be much ſmaller than the lower end. This is the beſt thing you can have for keeping all kinds of natural flies in, that you may have occaſion to uſe; for by eaſing the cork juſt ſo much as to let the head of the fly be ſeen, you may take them out one at a time without loſing any, whereas if kept in a box you run a chance every time you open it of letting out the greateſt part of thoſe that are able to get off.

3d, *The Stone Fly.*

This is a large tough bait, and is to be found under and about ſtones in ſmall ſtony brooks, and ſometimes among gravel by the ſides of large waters. Your

hook muſt be large, and the bait drawn upon the ſhank; and it is to be uſed very early in the morning and late in the evening.

4th, *The Graſshopper.*

This is a fine and tender bait to fiſh with. In baiting with it, ſome take off the legs, but I never found it anſwer ſo well as with them on, when put properly to ſtand on the back of the hook. They are to be found in moſt graſs-fields, but I think more plentifully in a kind of old ſhort moſſy graſs, where you may often catch numbers according to your own ſkill and perſeverance.

5th, *The Beetle.*

Of theſe there are two ſorts; one of a reddiſh copper colour, the other black; both are excellent baits for large *Trouts and other fiſhes*, but the *former* is by far the beſt. They have two pair of wings each,

each, the uppermoſt of a hard huſky nature, the under ones ſoft and tranſparent, of a bluiſh colour, and, when extended, much longer than the hard ones. There are alſo different ſizes of beetles; thoſe found under horſe or cow-dung in the fields about three or four days after it is dropped, are the largeſt; but thoſe found in old ſtone-fenced and old potatoe-grounds, are the beſt, though not ſo large as the others. When you come to bait the hook, clip off the hard wings, and hang the fly with his feet towards the water.

Theſe which I have deſcribed are the beſt natural flies that can be found, though you may ſometimes kill fiſh with any largiſh fly that you may chance to ſee about the water, or ſuch as you ſee the fiſh take.

When you come to fiſh this way, let your line be ſhorter than for artificial-fly fiſhing. Where there are ſtreams, before you approach them too near, begin to fiſh juſt over the bank, or near to the ſhore; and, advancing gradually till you

can fish the stream, begin at the top, and fish it regularly down, throwing gently across it (taking care not to whip off or damage your bait), and letting the bait go gently down the stream, sometimes just under the surface of the water, and at others to be carried about the middle, particularly in deep streams. In small rivers, which in the summer time are generally pretty full of weeds, fish in places where you can get your line properly in between them, where the current is strongest, and also over hollow banks, under and about trees and bushes, and all other of the *fishes haunts* as before noticed, and in all waters, taking care to let out or shorten your line as occasion requires.

The most favourable winds and weather for an angler to go out in.

THE best winds are those from the *south* or *west*, and *south east*, when they blow warm in the spring, with a good breeze, for most common fish; but for Salmon and Trout a strong wind is best. In very warm

warm weather, a cool wind from any of these points is better than too warm;—in autumn and winter, the warmer the better. Some have affirmed, that when the wind comes from the east or north quarters, it is of no use to attempt to angle. The fish, indeed, may not take so well for a day or two at such time; but afterwards, though the wind should continue so, they will come out to feed, and you may have sport, provided you angle where the water is sheltered from such winds, and even in the streams where it is not, keeping your back to the wind, and fishing near to the side you are on. As to myself, I can aver, that for years past, let the wind and weather be as it might, I never failed of taking fish more or less; for if some kinds of fish are not in the humour to take, others are.

As to the weather, I shall here be very brief on that head; only observing, that the days following bright and moonlight nights are most favourable to the angler, particularly when they happen to be overcast and gloomy, or with flying showers.—

If

If you ſhould go out in a morning which proves bright and calm, and the day ſhould change to cloudineſs without rain, but with a good briſk wind, the large fiſh will then come on their feed, and you cannot well fail of having ſport, as you may alſo in ſtormy ſhowery weather, after each ſhower ſubſides.

THE END.